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Simply Crochet

Our Christmas to-hook list is not getting any shorter. We hooked up a pink bear... but surely baby deserves a purple one too? And a mint green one of course – so this season's shade. Plus, we seriously need the baubles blanket to snuggle under before we watch *Elf* this year, not to mention our Christmas mini-CAL cushion, progressing this month with the mistletoe and unicorn squares. There are just too many must-have treats to enjoy – dive in!

Simply Crochet

ISSUE EIGHTY-NINE

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HOOK
to
HOOK



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designer challenge - you could
win gorgeous yarn!

WIN



Keep pins
toasty on p15!



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Cool Christmas

This issue we have gorgeous projects for autumn and the festive season. While it may feel a little early, we wanted to give you plenty of time to start on your gift making. Did you spot our sparkly Christmas card set? We love our sparkly mini-makes and hope you have fun making them – as well as sending them to someone special! At the other end of the gift scale, the mint accessories (that poncho!) collection is simply stunning – sure to find fans on Christmas morning.

In other news, we are delighted to be supporting Jeanette Sloan's BIPOC in Fiber crowdfunder – find out more next issue.

Sara

CONTRIBUTORS

A respectful salute to the keen minds behind this issue



ESME CRICK

Esme describes herself as equal parts crochet designer, teacher and mum and she's never far from her hook. This issue, she's created a gorgeous neo-mint bag – find it on page 21.



ANQUA WILKERSON

Aniqua is a crocheter on a mission – and she made her Malik doll as a contribution to the growing discussion on diversity in crochet. Discover it over on page 28.



PAT STRONG

Pat learned the craft of crochet from her grandmother and now she's passing her love of it on to the world through her designs. Check out her gorgeous cardigan on page 42.



SAMANTHA OSMOND

Samantha is a passionate storyteller who feels crochet allows her to bring her whimsical characters into the real world, to have real-life adventures! See her squish bears on page 61.

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

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For the 8th issue of Scheepjes YARN bookazine, we've found inspiration in the tastes, colours and origins of four of our favourite tea flavours: 'English Tea' with its rich traditions; Oolong, elegant and exquisite like Asia itself; Ginger and Saffron with their Eastern zing and tea of the moment, Matcha. Take your time to 'leaf' through the pages of Tea Room and be inspired to create something wonderful.

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IDEAS ♥ INSPIRATION ♥ ACCESSORIES ♥ WEBSITES ♥ EVENTS ♥ STUFF



WIN ALL THE YARN TO MAKE THIS ROZETA BLANKET!

WIN

Enter at <http://competition.immediate.co.uk/scm89rozeta>
UK only. Ends midnight 23 Oct 2019. T's & C's apply. Yarn pack colourway may vary.

A touch of glass

Jump into the latest crochet-along from Scheepjes and create the stunning Rozeta blanket, designed by Tatsiana Kupryianchyk and inspired by round stained glass windows. The pattern is available in four beautiful colourways and with a choice of two different yarn kits: Scheepjes' Our Tribe or Colour Crafter. The CAL begins October 9 and runs for 11 weeks – see scheepjes.com/RozetaCAL-EN



MAGICAL MYSTERY

Polish your wands and dig out your broomsticks – The Amigurumi School of Magic, a mystery CAL from LoveCrafts, opens its doors on 1 October! Your crochet adventure will have five parts, each with three new patterns and fun surprises from designers Ilaria Caliri and Irene Strange, and Paintbox Yarns. Earlybird sign ups open mid-September. Find details at www.lovecrafts.com or follow designers @airali_gray and @irenestrane on Instagram for updates.

DARK WOOL STUFFING

▼ After having gone to all the effort of hooking up a premium toy such as one of TOFT's *Edward's Menagerie* makes, don't let your new friend down with mismatched stuffing. TOFT's new wool stuffing is naturally dark 100% British wool sourced from Black Welsh Sheep, and it's just ideal for padding dark projects – no more white stuffing showing through dark stitches! Pick up a 150g bag for £9, available online at www.toft.com



Competition

WIN A WORKSHOP!

Treat yourself to a fabulous yarn bowl – made by you! Emily Cross Ceramics offers a range of tools for textile artists including yarn bowls, which stop your yarn from rolling away as you hook. Emily also runs workshops so you can make your own porcelain goodies – and we've teamed up with *The Knitter* and *Simply Knitting* to give away one six-hour workshop for two people, worth £200. The workshop will take place between 11–19 January 2020, and winners can throw a mug, trim a yarn bowl or decorate a ready-trimmed bowl, as well as make extra crafty goodies. Prize is not transferrable. UK only. Closing date 17 October. Enter at emxceramics.com

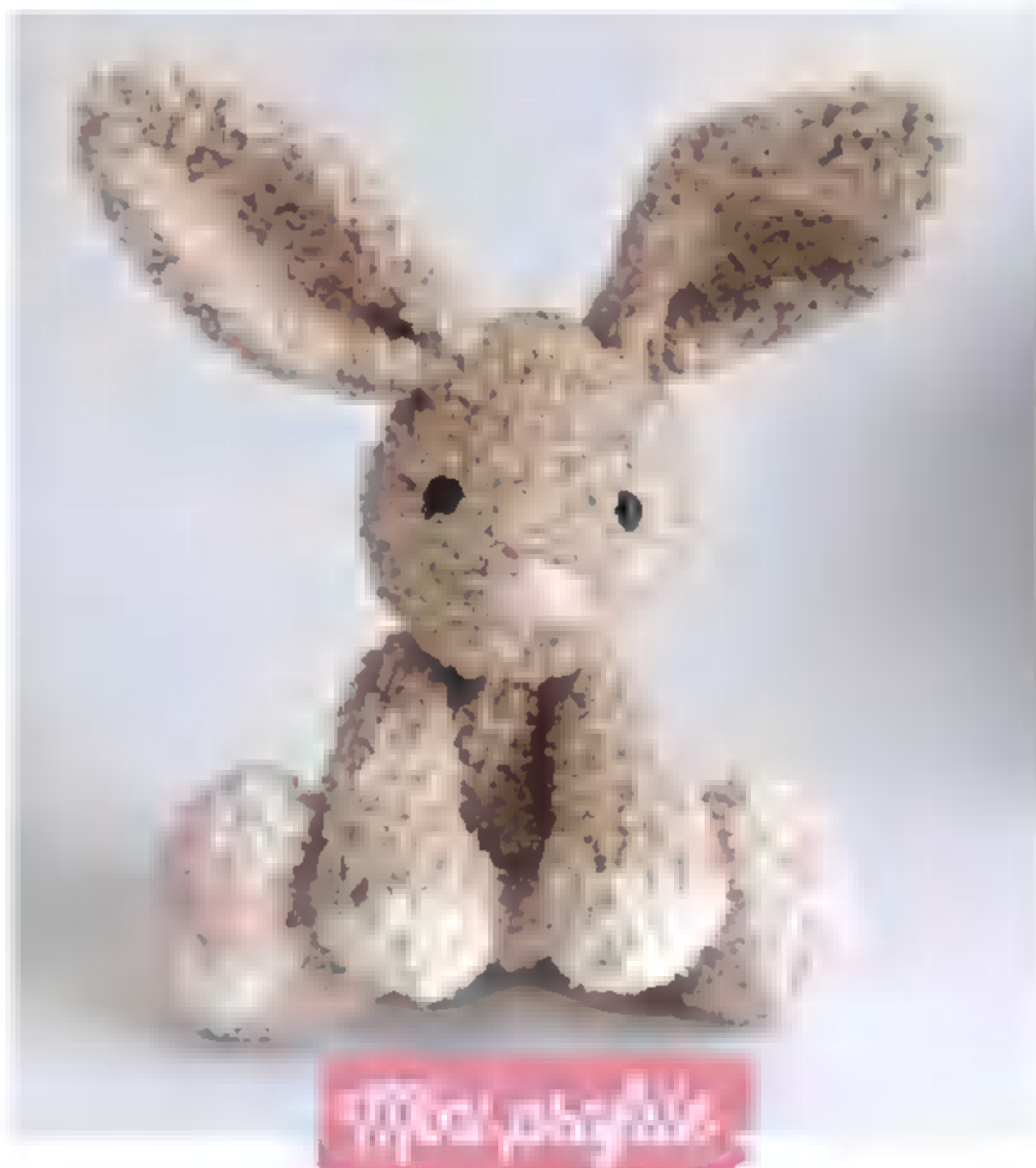
#G&SD2019

We Love...

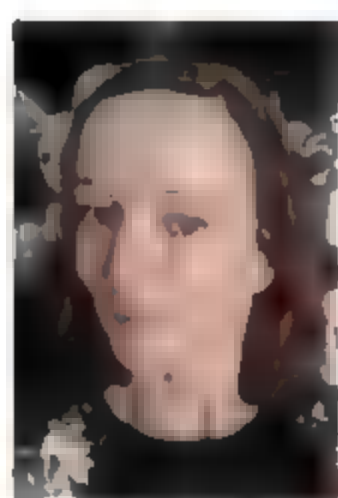
Were you one of the thousands of hooksters who took part in Granny Square Day 2019? Crocheters took to Instagram in their droves to post pictures of their freshly hooked squares under the hashtag #grannysquareday2019, to create a virtual patchwork blanket on the social media site.

We loved all the squares we saw, but Natalie Beard's granny-inspired number was a big favourite on the day – even spawning its own #grannyinagrannysquare hashtag! "I had a huge reaction to my square as soon as I posted it," says Natalie. "I was completely blown away with all the love, wonderful comments and pattern requests!" Pick up the pattern for £3 from Natalie's Instagram page @sewing_the_seeds_of_love





Most playful



BELLE AND GRACE

Amanda Beechey, the designer behind Belle and Grace Handmade Crochet, began crocheting in 2008. "My very

talented nan-in-law Elaine first taught me the basics with the classic granny squares. It was a great way to spend quality time together. In 2013 I discovered amigurumi and I was hooked! YouTube was a great way for me to learn new techniques for amigurumi; I spent hours watching crochet videos. For years I only made teddies for friends and family, and then with a lot of encouragement Belle and Grace was created (the name comes from two of my three children's middle names).

"I wanted to create amigurumi that would stand out and be consistent. I searched high and low until I found the yarn that would help me do that and it is Scheepjes Stone Washed yarn. The colour range and the depth it creates gives every piece its own personality.

"I started selling teddies online locally and at handmade markets, and then soon after I was selling all around the world! When I first started out I honestly never imagined I could still be creating amigurumi now and seeing so many of my designs being created and



"I have a hook and yarn in my hand almost every day"

shared. It really warms my heart and gives me more motivation to keep creating.

"My first design was Matilda the Koala, the first of my Australian animal collection. I love how I can make teddies to represent where I am from. I have a hook and yarn in my hand almost every day. I spend hours searching Pinterest, Instagram and children's books for inspirations. In 2018 I was honoured to create sausage dog teddies to coincide with a new children's book release called *Ollie Sparkles*. It was a mammoth job which took 100 balls of yarn and nine weeks of non-stop making."

Follow Amanda's Instagram @belleandgrace_hmc and find her patterns on Etsy and Ravelry

INSPIRING BOOKS

MABEL BUNNY & CO



MABEL BUNNY & CO

CLAIRE GELDER

(£12.99, Search Press)

Prepare to fall in love with these snuggly toys!

From Claire Gelder of Wool Couture fame, the

collection includes 15 oversized amigurumi animals, including a koala, lamb, polar bear, and of course bunny, as well as three baby versions – aww! Worked up in soft, chunky yarn, they are seriously cuddly and make great gifts for children and adults alike.



CROCHET WITH LONDON KAYE

LONDON KAYE

(£18.99, Abrams)

We have long been admirers of street artist London Kaye. As well as

jaw-dropping photos

of some of her yarn-bombing escapades, this book includes more than a dozen of her unique patterns, from crochet covers for your sneakers to her signature eyeball design.



EDWARD'S MENAGERIE: THE NEW COLLECTION

KERRY LORD

(£16.99, Pavilion Books)

We can't wait to get stuck into this latest 'Edward' book by Kerry Lord from TOFT. There are 50 new

animal amigurumi patterns in the collection, including James the Meerkat, Kylie the Quokka, Natalie the Otter and Archie the Llama.

Adorable! The projects are rated so you can work your way up to the more challenging ones.



QUICK CRAFTS FOR PARENTS WHO THINK THEY HATE CRAFT

EMMA SCOTT-CHILD

(£12.99, Random House)

The perfect entry point for craft-phobic parents,

this book is packed with 40 fun projects with a promise that they won't leave you cranky and the floor sticky! From a pirate hook and sword to a squirty bottle whale, there's something to appeal to all kids in this book.



WINNERS FOR JANUARY

SUBS STARS!

Every month, three subscribers win a prize as thanks for their loyalty. This month, the winners (below) will each receive this Caron blanket pattern and seven balls of yarn to hook it up with. Check your issue next month to see if you're a winner!

Simon Lovell, Bristol

Tina Stevens, Waltham Cross

Dawn Roberts, Swindon

Immediate Media Company, publishers of Simply Crochet, Subs Stars giveaway Tia & Co's Prizes were dispatched on the on-sale date of this issue. There are no cash alternatives. Three winning entries will be chosen at random from all current subscribers. The draw is final and no correspondence will be entered into.



YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND

Journey to infinity and beyond with Aldi's fab *Toy Story* crochet kits (£3.99), part of their Specialbuys collection. Each kit has a crochet hook and all the yarn and stuffing you need to create your own Woody or Buzz Lightyear! You'll also find *The Lion King* crochet kits featuring Simba, Timon and Pumbaa. Preorder online from 15 September or buy in store from 19 September. www.aldi.co.uk

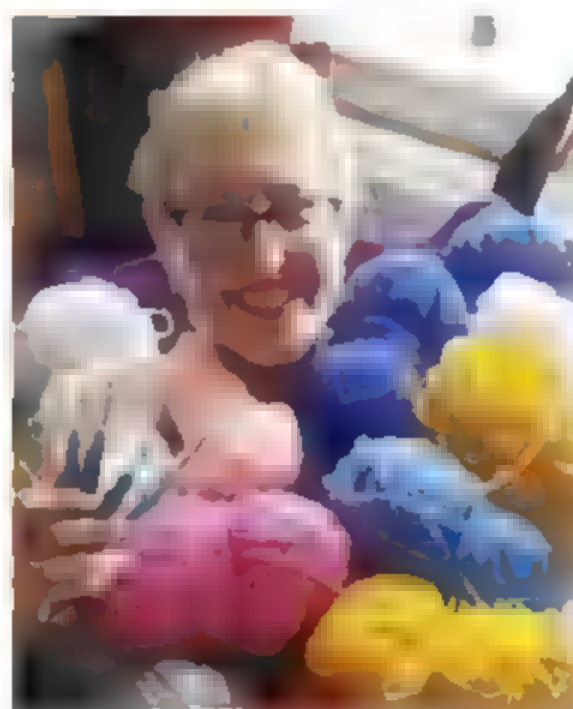


CUDDLY HYGGE NEW YARN

Chunky hooks at the ready for Novita's ultra-cosy new offering. Novita Hygge is an ultra-soft 100% wool yarn, just made for snuggly items like blankets, scarves and knitwear. If it makes you want to cuddle up, Hygge is a great choice. Hygge comes in 100g balls – with each offering 60 metres of wool to play with. The yarn is machine washable at 30°, making it ideal for items that see a lot of use. See the collection on www.novitaknits.com/en

CROCHET MARATHON!

▼ Natalie Morrison is attempting a new world record for the 'Longest Crochet Marathon' on 1 November at Wool on the Exe in Exeter. She will be crocheting scarves for 24+ hours and people will be coming in and crocheting along with her to keep her awake! Natalie will be raising funds for those affected by mental health issues. Donate at justgiving.com/crowdfunding/crochet-marathon, or see www.facebook.com/crochetmarathon/



WIN WOOL COUTURE'S MABEL BUNNY & CO

We are super-excited about Wool Couture's new book, *Mabel Bunny & Co*. We love their signature chunky knit style and it's just perfect for hooking up cuddly amigurumi toys. There are 15 animals to crochet, including Doris the Sloth, Lionel the Lamb and Mabel the Bunny, plus three mini versions. They make great gifts, if you can bear to part with them.

If you fancy getting your hands on this book, we've got two to give away! Enter at <http://competition.immediate.co.uk/mabelbunny>. Sorry, but due to international competition law this is UK only. T's and C's apply. Ends midnight 23 October 2019.

New crochet-along!

Christmas CAL

Count down to Christmas with Rico Design's crochet-along, The Twelve Days of Christmas. Each week you can download a new Ricorumi cute festive character – a twist on the traditional carol. Rico's version is, "A Santa with a pine tree, 2 polar bears, 3 jelly fish, 4 cheeky elves, 5 mice with cheese, 6 mermaids swimming, 7 snowmen singing, 8 birds a tweeting, 9 bunnies dancing, 10 sausage dogs, 11 pigs in blankets, 12 robots bleeping..." Of course, you need only make one of each if you want! The CAL starts on 6 September and will run for 11 weeks. The patterns will be available at the Rico Design website and will be worked in Ricorumi DK yarn. Follow Rico on Instagram @ricorumi for all the latest updates and Rico are encouraging CAL participants to tag their pictures #ricorumiXmasCAL so everyone can share their progress. www.rico-design.de



Scheepjes Presents

AN INTERVIEW WITH

Matt (from A Boy and Bunting Blog) will be hosting AN INTERVIEW event in the Scheepjes Lounge at the weekend. Matt will be interviewing some of the most talented people in the yarn world.

Условные обозначения signs and explanations

Meet our Ed!

If you've ever wondered what being Editor of a craft magazine is like, or are interested in becoming a designer for *Simply Crochet*, head over to YarnDale in Skipton on 28 September and you can see our very own Editor Sara being interviewed by Matt Farci of crochet and craft blog A Boy & Bunting. Sara is just one of many yarn gurus Matt will be chatting to in the Scheepjes Lounge over the weekend. Tickets for the interviews are £5 and available from yarndale.co.uk. Everyone attending receives a Scheepjes goodie bag too!

Tickets £5 and are available from yarndale.co.uk

Everyone attending receives a Scheepjes goodie bag

Sara Editor of Simply Crochet

Kate Designer of Simply Crochet

Holda Designer of Simply Crochet

Look Designer of Simply Crochet

5 FAB FINDS

Baby it's cold outside
Treat yourself to a cheerful new scarf this winter



REACH FOR THE STARS

The Kawaii Shooting Star Scarf will cheer you up no end as you head out on those dark winter mornings and with the fluffy yarn you'll be super-cosy. Stellar! Pattern from Etsy – search for HELLOhappy.



LOOKING GOOD

Perfect to throw on for autumn walks, the Oriole Triangle Scarf with tassels will keep you warm while looking uber-stylish. Pattern from Etsy – see haileybailey.

LITTLE MERMAID

Bring out your inner Ariel with this fabulous Mermaid Cable Scarf with fishtail braid pattern in zingy brights. Pattern from Etsy – search RebeccaStylings.



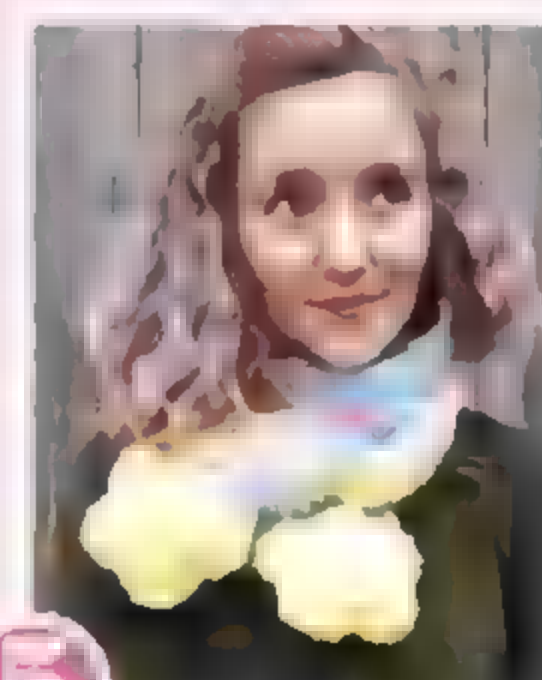
HEADS UP

A guaranteed win for Christmas Jumper Day, this Santa Heads Scarf truly brings the festive cheer! Find the pattern on Etsy – search for Donnas CrochetDesigns.



LET IT SNOW

We love the pockets in this corner-to-corner Snowflake Scarf – perfect for chilly mitts (or for your sweet stash!). Find the pattern at thecrochetcouch.com



KING COLE NEW YARNS

King Cole are spoiling us with their launch of not one, not two, but three new yarns! Explorer is Super Chunky (20% wool, 80% acrylic, £4.19 per 100g) and comes in eight textured stripe shades. Big Value Poplar Chunky (30% polyamide, 70% acrylic, £2.49 per 100g) has six classic shades perfect for winter knits. Natural Alpaca DK is a beautifully soft 100% alpaca (£7.99 per 50g), available in eight undyed, natural colours. www.kingcole.com



what's about

Skills, shows & events

16 NOV Learn to Crochet Workshop
£54.95, The Craft Barn, Warrington
www.blacksheepwools.com

16 NOV Wavy Winter Wrap Workshop
£60, The Craft House, Saltaire, Shipley
www.saltaircrafthouse.com

17 NOV Nottingham Yarn Expo
£10, Nottingham Conference Centre
www.nottinghamyarnexpo.com

18 NOV-1 DEC Knitting & Stitching Show
£15.50, Harrogate Convention Centre
www.theknittingandstitchingshow.com

2 DEC Winter Woollies
£Free, Home Farm, Nanpantan, Leicestershire
Winter Woollies on facebook.com



GLOVE OF MY LIFE

Minty mittens worked with cabled crochet – a contemporary shade worked into a classic style. Fur trims and pompoms are perfect finishing details – just don't let them drop into your eggnog.





Newly minted

This season's hottest new shade is also one of the coolest around. Feel the snowflake vibe and get those gifts underway!

WINTER ACCESSORIES



HOLD UP

Christmas is a time for giving, and by extension time for getting. But where to put all your latest accoutrements? This square bag has you (and your fab new gifts) covered. We'll be *really* impressed if you make it and don't keep it for yourself...

GIVE IT THE GREEN LIGHT

Your friends will be mint with envy as you step out in this cosy cover-up. The single-colour style lets the elegant pattern do the talking, while a ribbed roll-neck cuts out those winter chills.





POMPOM AND CEREMONY

Crack out your pompom maker for this winter winner – a snug scarf with a pretty cable twist. Quick to work up, it's an ideal Crimbo gift for fashionista friends.

LEFT-HANDED?
THE CABLES WILL TWIST
IN THE OPPOSITE
DIRECTION.

CABLED MITTENS

Stay warm and stylish with Ilaria Caliri's pair of beautiful winter mittens.

- Stylecraft Life DK (75% acrylic, 25% wool, 100g/298m), 1 ball of Yarn A Mint (2342)
- Stylecraft Eskimo DK (100% polyester, 50g/90m), 1 ball of Yarn B Natural (5211)
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- PU Leather 'Hand Made' labels from www.amazon.co.uk (optional)

TENSION

8 sts and 8 rows to measure 5x5cm (2x2in) over extended double crochet worked in rounds using Yarn A and 3.5mm hook or size required to achieve tension

MEASUREMENTS

20cm (8in) around fingers, 25cm (9¾in) around hand, 22cm (8¾in) long

ABBREVIATIONS

cab1 (a 2-st cable) (Skip 1 st, FPtr around next st, FPtr around skipped st)

cab2 (a 6-st cable) (Skip 3 sts, FPdtr around next 3 sts 2 rows below, FPdtr around previous 3 Front Post sts, 2 rows below skipped sts)

exdc (extended double crochet) Insert hook in st, yrh and pull up loop, yrh, pull through first loop only, yrh, pull through both loops

FPdtr (front post double treble) (Yrh) twice, starting from the front, insert hook from front to back to front around the post of st specified, complete as a double treble st

For a full list, see page 19

NOTES

The Thumb is made first, then the Hand is worked in one piece, from the fingers to the wrist, with the Thumb joined while working the Hand.

MITTS (MAKE 2)

THUMB

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop. Work in a spiral without joining each round.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 7exdc into the loop. [7 sts]

Round 2 2exdc in each st around. [14 sts]

Rounds 3-9 1exdc in each st around.

Ss in next st.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Leave Thumbs aside.

HAND

Using Yarn A, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as first tr throughout), 7tr into the loop, ss in top of beg ch-3. [8 sts]

Round 2 Ch3, FPtr around st at base of beg ch-3, 2FPtr around each remaining st, ss in top of beg ch-3. [16 sts]

Round 3 Ch3, FPtr around st at base of beg ch-3, FPtr around next st, (2FPtr around next st, FPtr around next st) 7 times, ss in top of beg ch-3. [24 sts]

Round 4 Ch3, FPtr around st at base of beg ch-3, FPtr around next 2 sts, (2FPtr around next st, FPtr around next 2 sts) 7 times, ss in top of beg ch-3. [32 sts]

Round 5 Ch3, skip st at base of beg ch-3, FPtr around each remaining st, ss in top of beg ch-3.

Round 6 Ch1 (does not count as st), exdc in next 18 sts, FPtr around next 2 sts, exdc in next st, FPtr around next 6 sts, exdc in next st, FPtr around next 2 sts, exdc in next 2 sts.

Now work in a continuous round (without closing each round with a ss).

Round 7 Exdc in next 18 sts, FPtr around next 2 sts, exdc in next st, FPtr around next 6 sts, exdc in next st, FPtr around next 2 sts, exdc in next 2 sts.

Round 8 Exdc in next 18 sts, cab1, exdc in next st, cab2, exdc in next st, cab1, exdc in next 2 sts. [32 sts]

Rounds 9-12 Rep Round 7 a further 4 times.

Round 13 As Round 8.

Rounds 14-17 Rep Round 7 a further 4 times.

Round 18 As Round 8.

Rounds 19-20 Rep Round 7 twice more.

Now work Round 21 for either right or left hand:

Round 21 for right hand Exdc in next 13 sts, position the Thumb next to the Mitten (with the last round of both pieces close to each other), exdc in each of first 11 sts on the last round of the Thumb, skip last 3 sts of the





Thumb, skip next 3 sts of Mitten then work exdc in next 2 sts, FPtr around next 2 sts, exdc in next st, FPtr around next 6 sts, exdc in next st, FPtr around next 2 sts, exdc in next 2 sts. [40 sts, including 29 sts on the Mitten and 11 sts on the Thumb]

Round 21 for left hand Position the Thumb next to the Mitten (with the last round of both pieces close to each other), exdc in each of first 11 sts on the last round of the Thumb, skip last 3 sts of the Thumb, skip next 3 sts of Mitten then work exdc in next 15 sts, FPtr around next 2 sts, exdc in next st, FPtr around next 6 sts, exdc in next st, FPtr around next 2 sts, exdc in next 2 sts. [40 sts, including 29 sts on the Mitten and 11 sts on the Thumb]

You'll see there is a 3-st gap between the Mitten and the Thumb. Sew gap from the inside of the Mitten using a tapestry needle or ss together at the end of the work.

Continue for both hands as follows:

Round 22 Exdc in next 26 sts, FPtr around next 2 sts, exdc in next st, FPtr around next 6 sts, exdc in next st, FPtr around next 2 sts, exdc in next 2 sts. [40 sts]

Round 23 Exdc in next 26 sts, cable1, exdc in next st, cable2, exdc in next st, cable1, exdc in next 2 sts.

Rounds 24-27 Rep Round 22 a further 4 times.

Round 28 Ss in next st to join, ch1 (does not count as st), exdc in same st at base of beg ch-1, exdc in next 12 sts, (tr2tog, tr in next st) 4 times, tr in next st, cable1, tr in next st, cable2, tr in next st, cable1, tr in next 2 sts, ss in first st. [36 sts]

Rounds 29-33 Ch3 (counts as first tr), skip st at base of beg ch-3, FPtr around each remaining st, ss in top of beg ch-3.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Round 34 Join Yarn B on the inside of the Mitten on the ridge created by the last round of FPtr sts, to work a round of dc inside the edge of the Mitten as follows: ch1 (not counted as st), dc in st at base of beg ch-1, dc in each st around, ss in first dc. [36 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

POMPOM (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn B, make a magic loop. Work in a continuous spiral, without joining each round.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 3 (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]

Rounds 4-6 Dc in each st around.

Round 7 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 sts] Ss in next st.

Fasten off, leaving a tail for sewing. Most of the fur sits on the WS of the work so turn the Pompom inside out. Stuff with polyester filling or scrap yarn and close the gap using a tapestry needle, then weave in the end.

STRING (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, ch30 (adjust the number of ch to make a longer or shorter string).

Ss into the bottom edge of the Mitten in one st opposite to the Thumb, ss in each st back along the chain.

Fasten off leaving a tail and use for sewing the Pompom to the string.



NEO MINI HAT

Release your inner ice queen with this frosty headpiece by Hannah Cross.

- Stylecraft Life DK (75% acrylic, 25% wool, 100g/298m), 2 balls of Yarn A Mint (2342)
- Stylecraft Eskimo DK (100% polyester, 50g/90m), 2 balls of Yarn B Natural (5211)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- Pompom maker, 11.5cm

TENSION

19 sts and 10 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over htr Band, using a 5mm hook or size required to achieve tension

MEASUREMENTS

To fit an average adult head (circumference around 50cm with plenty of stretch)

ABBREVIATIONS

FPdtr (front post double treble) See Mittens on page 19

For a full list of abbreviations see page 19

NOTES

A ch1 at the beginning of a row or round does not count as a stitch.

The Hat is constructed by working the Band flat in rows then rotating to work the body in flat rows along the long edge of the Band. The Hat is then seamed up the side and gathered at the top before adding the Pompom.

When working into a stitch that sits below the working row (e.g. the FP sts that are 2 rows below), this counts as a stitch; therefore, skip the corresponding stitch that would normally have been used on the working edge.

HAT

BAND

Using Yarn A, ch25.

Row 1 (RS) Htr in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [24 sts]

Rows 2-53 Ch1 (does not count as st here and throughout), htr in blo of each st to end, turn. Do not turn after Row 53, rotate to work along the long edge (row-ends) for the Hat body.

MAIN HAT BODY

Row 1 Ch1, work 77htr evenly across long edge, turn. This works out as 2 sts in each of 24 row ends spaced evenly, and 1 st in each rem row end. [77 sts]

Row 2 Ch1, htr in each st to end, turn.

Row 3 Ch1, *(htr in next st, FPdtr around next 2 sts two rows below) twice, htr in next st; rep from * to end, turn. [11 pattern repeats]

Row 4 Ch1, htr in each st to end, turn.

Row 5 Ch1, *htr in next st, skip next 3 sts, FPdtr around next 2 Front Post sts 2 rows below, working behind these sts; htr in 3rd skipped stitch, working in front of these sts; FPdtr around 2 Front Post sts 2 rows below skipped sts, htr in next st; rep from * to end, turn.

Row 6 Ch1, htr in each st to end, turn.

Row 7 As Row 3.

Rows 4-7 create the pattern.

Rows 8-15 Repeat Rows 4-7 twice more.

Row 16 As Row 4.

Row 17 Ch1, htr in first st, *skip next 3 sts, FPdtr around next 2 Front Post sts 2 rows below, htr in 3rd skipped st, FPdtr around 2 Front Post sts 2 rows below skipped sts, htr2tog; rep from * to last 6 sts, skip next 3 sts, FPdtr around next 2 Front Post sts 2 rows below, htr in 3rd skipped st, FPdtr around 2 Front Post sts 2 rows below skipped sts, htr in last st, turn. [67 sts]

Row 18 As Row 6.

Row 19 Ch1, htr in first st, *FPdtr around next 2 sts two rows below, htr in next st; rep from * to end, turn.

Row 20 As Row 4.

Row 21 Ch1, htr in first st, skip next 3 sts, FPdtr around next 2 Front Post 2 rows below, htr in 3rd skipped stitch, FPdtr around 2 Front Post sts 2 rows below skipped sts, *skip next 4 sts, FPdtr around next 2 Front Post sts 2 rows below, htr in 4th skipped stitch, FPdtr around Front Post sts 2 rows below 2nd and 3rd skipped sts; rep from * to last st, htr in last st, turn. [57 sts]

Row 22 Ch1, htr in first st, (htr2tog) to end. [29 sts]

TO MAKE UP

Turn to WS facing, seam crown and side of Hat. Turn to RS facing and turn up Band. Using Yarn B, create a pompom and attach to crown of Hat.

CABLE TOTE BAG

Stay stylish in the snow with this gorgeous carryall, designed by Esme Crick.

- Stylecraft Life DK (75% acrylic, 25% wool, 100g/298m), 3 balls of Yarn A Mint (2342)
- Stylecraft Eskimo DK (100% polyester, 50g/90m), 1 ball of Yarn B Natural (5211)
- A 4mm (US G/6) crochet hook
- Pompom maker, 6.5cm
- PU bag handles, black/brown, from myfabrics.co.uk
- Lining fabric, approx 39 x 67cm (do not cut until Bag Panels are sewn together to check measurements)
- Sewing needle, thread and pins

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Approx 33cm height x 39cm width (13x15.5in)

ABBREVIATIONS

FPdtr (front post double treble) See Mittens on page 19

For a full list see page 10

NOTES

A ch1 at the beginning of a row or round does not count as a stitch.

Bag is made from two identical Panels for front and back seamed together. A fabric lining and handles are added.

BAG

MAIN PANEL (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, ch75.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [74 dc]

Rows 2-4 Ch1 (does not count as st

throughout), dc in each st to end, turn.

In Row 5, work all FPtr loosely around st posts of aligned dc in Row 2, eg make first FPtr in seventh dc of Row 2.

Row 5 Ch1, dc in next 6 sts, FPtr around next 8 sts in Row 2 below, dc in next 12 sts, FPtr around next 8 sts in Row 2 below, dc in next 2 sts, FPtr around next 2 sts in Row 2 below, dc in next 2 sts, FPtr around next 8 sts in Row 2 below, dc in next 12 sts, FPtr around next 8 sts in Row 2 below, dc in next 6 sts, turn.

Row 6 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

In Row 7, work all FPtr around aligned st posts of FPtr two rows below.

Row 7 Ch1, dc in next 6 sts, FPtr around next 8 sts two rows below, dc in next 12 sts, FPtr around next 8 sts two rows below, dc in next 2 sts, FPtr around next 2 sts two rows below, dc in next 2 sts, FPtr around next 8 sts two rows below, dc in next 12 sts, FPtr around next 8 sts two rows below, dc in next 6 sts, turn.

Row 8 As Row 6.

In Row 9, work all FPdtr and FPtr around indicated st posts of FPtr two rows below.

Row 9 (crossed cable row) Ch1, dc in next 6 sts, *skip first 2 FPtr, 1FPdtr around next 2 FPtr 2 rows below, 1FPdtr around each of the 2 skipped FPtr 2 rows below, skip next 2 FPtr, 1FPdtr around next 2 FPtr 2 rows below, 1FPdtr around each of the 2 skipped FPtr 2 rows below**, dc in next 12 sts, rep from * to ** once more, dc in next 2 sts, FPtr around next 2 FPtr 2 rows below, dc in next 2 sts, rep from * to ** once more, dc in next 12 sts, rep from * to ** once more, dc in next 6 sts, turn.

Row 10 As Row 6.

In Row 11, work all FPtr around aligned st posts of FPdtr and FPtr 2 rows below. Some FPdtr are



hidden behind others; be careful to work around every st post in turn, pushing FPdtr to one side where necessary in order to access hidden ones.

Row 11 As Row 7.

Rows 12-77 Rep Rows 6-11 a further 11 times.

Row 78 As Row 6.

Row 79 Ch1, ss loosely in each st to end.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Place both Panels together, with RS facing out. With Yarn A and a needle, sew Panels together with a small neat running stitch, approx 0.5cm (1/4in) from outside edge, along 2 sides and bottom edge.

For lining, cut a piece of folded fabric to the size of one of the Panels, with the fold along the width of the Bag and allowing an extra 0.5cm for seams along the sides and top. With WS facing out, sew along 2 sides, leaving top edge open. With WS still facing out, fold the top edge WS together to make a fold of 1cm, iron to hold in place. Insert lining into Bag, and with needle and sewing thread, sew lining into place just under inside top edge of Bag.

Position handles in correct place on each side, and sew on securely.

Using Yarn B and a pompom maker, make a pompom and attach to handle.

COSY MINT SCARF

Because the cold is no excuse not to stay stylish. Designed by Hannah Cross.

- Stylecraft Life DK (75% acrylic, 25% wool, 100g/298m), 2 balls of Yarn A Mint (2342)
- Stylecraft Eskimo DK (100% polyester, 50g/90m), 2 balls of Yarn B Natural (5211)
- A 5mm (US H/8) hook
- Pompom maker, 11.5cm

TENSION

18 sts and 12 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over pattern, using a 5mm hook or size required to achieve tension

MEASUREMENTS

Scarf measures 19x132cm (7 1/2x52in)

ABBREVIATIONS

FPdtr (front post double treble) See Mittens on page 19

BPhtr (back post half treble) Yrh, starting from the back, insert hook from back to front to back around the post of st in row specified, complete as a half treble st

For a full list see page 19

NOTES

A ch1 at the beginning of a row or round does not count as a stitch.

When working into a stitch that sits below the working row (for example the FP sts that are 2 rows below), this counts as a stitch and therefore you skip the corresponding stitch that would normally have been used along the working edge.

When working Rows 4 and 6, make sure that when you work the central 9 BPhtr, that you work around all of the central 9 sts, and don't miss the crossed stitches, otherwise your stitch count and pattern will be affected.

SCARF

Using Yarn A, ch34.

Row 1 (RS) Htr in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [33 sts]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st here and throughout), htr in each st to end, turn.

Row 3 Ch1, htr in each of first 3 sts, FPdtr around next 2 sts 2 rows below, htr in next st, FPdtr around next 2 sts 2 rows below, htr in next 4 sts, skip next 3 sts, FPtr around next 3 htr, working in front of last 3 sts, FPtr around 3 skipped sts, FPtr around next 3 sts, htr in next 11 sts, FPdtr around next 2 sts 2 rows below, htr in next st, FPdtr around next 2 sts 2 rows below, htr in last 3 sts, turn.

Row 4 Ch1, htr in next 12 sts, BPhtr around next 9 sts, htr in next 12 sts.

Row 5 Ch1, htr in each of first 3 sts, skip next 3 sts, FPdtr around next 2 Front Post sts 2 rows below, working behind these sts; htr in third skipped st, working in front; FPdtr around 2 Front Post sts 2 rows below skipped sts, htr in next 4 sts, FPtr around next 3 sts, skip next 3 sts, FPtr around next 3 sts, working in front of these sts; FPtr in 3 skipped sts, htr in next 4 sts, skip next 3 sts, FPdtr around next 2 Front Post sts 2 rows below, working behind these sts; htr in 3rd skipped st, working in front; FPdtr around 2 Front Post sts 2 rows below skipped sts, htr in next 3 sts.

Row 6 As Row 4.

Rows 3-6 set the pattern.

Rows 7-174 Rep Rows 3-6 a further 42 times.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

TO MAKE UP

Gather each end of the Scarf tightly, using matching yarn, and sew to create shape. Using Yarn B, make two pompoms and secure one to each of the end of the Scarf to complete.

YARN STOCKISTS
Stylecraft

01484 848435

www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk



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Winter wonder

This casual poncho hits the high notes for both comfort and style. Designed by Fran Morgan





YOU WILL NEED

■ Stylecraft Life DK (75% acrylic, 25% wool, 100g/298m)

■ balls of Mint (2342)

■ A 4.5mm (US 7) hook

■ A 5mm (US H/8) hook

For yarn stockists contact

Stylecraft 01484 848435

www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

Pattern repeat of 16 sts and 11 rows measures 10x10cm (4x4in) over pattern using a 4.5mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS (ONE SIZE)

80x64cm (31½x25in)

ABBREVIATIONS

cable4 Skip next 2 sts, FPdtr in next 2 sts from 2 rows below, FPdtr into first and second skipped sts from 2 rows below

cable6 Skip next 3 sts, FPdtr in next 3 sts from 2 rows below, FPdtr into first, second and third skipped sts from 2 rows below

For a full list, see page 27

The cosiness of a jumper meets the flattering drape of a casual wrap in this one-size-fits-all poncho. A single-colour style lets the cable stitchwork do the talking in this comfortable, elegant winter warmer.

NOTES

The Poncho is worked in one size from the bottom up, with separate pieces for Front and Back. There are three cable panels in the centre of each piece; a single cable, a lattice cable and another single cable. The stitch patterns for the cables are written out first, with the main instructions following. A rib edging is added to the two hem edges, and also to the two side edges. Rib is worked around the neckline as a cowl. Please refer to the Symbol Charts on page 27 for the Front and Back pieces.

CABLE PATTERNS

PATTERN A - SINGLE CABLE (16 STS)

See Chart A on page 27.

Every FPdtr is worked into the st from 2 rows below.

Row 1 (RS) FPdtr around next st from 2 rows below, 4dc, cable6, skip 6 tr from previous row, 4dc, FPdtr around next st from 2 rows below.

Row 2 and every WS row Ch2, tr in each st to end. On the treble row following a Cable 6 row, you will be working into the Front Post sts of the previous row, and there will be 6 unworked sts from the treble row before the cable row. To avoid a gap between these two layers of sts, insert the hook into the back loop of one of the central unworked tr sts as well as the Front Post st you are working on the current row.

Row 3 FPdtr, 4dc, 6FPdtr, 4dc, FPdtr.

Row 5 FPdtr, 4dc, 6FPdtr, 4dc, FPdtr.

Row 7 FPdtr, 4dc, cable6, 4dc, FPdtr.

Row 9 FPdtr, 4dc, 6FPdtr, 4dc, FPdtr.

Row 10 As Row 2.

Rows 1-10 form pattern.

PATTERN B - LATTICE CABLE (20 STS)

See Chart B on page 27.

Every FPdtr is worked into the st from 2 rows below.

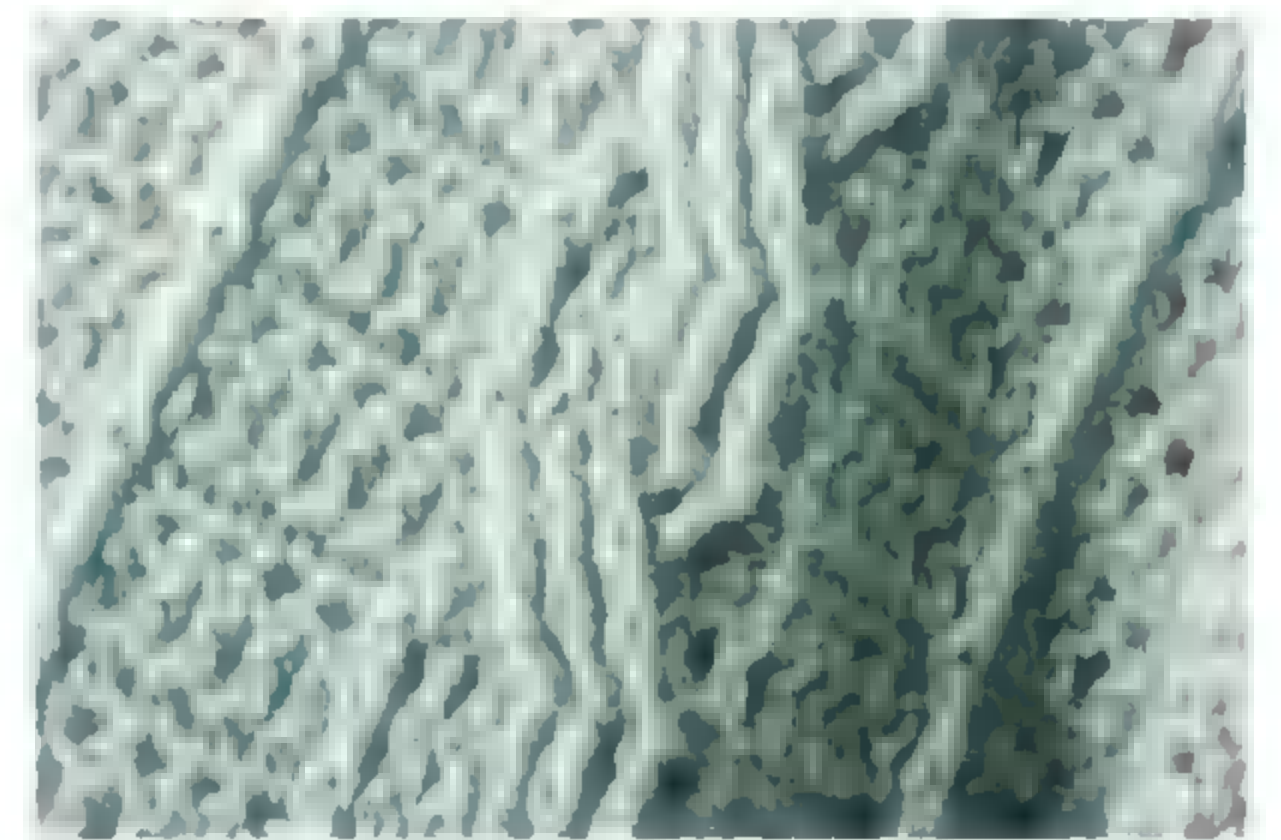
Row 1 (RS) FPdtr around next 2 sts, 5dc, FPdtr around next 2 sts, 2 dc, FPdtr around next 2 sts, 5dc, FPdtr around next 2 sts.

Row 2 and every (WS) row Ch2, tr in each st to end.

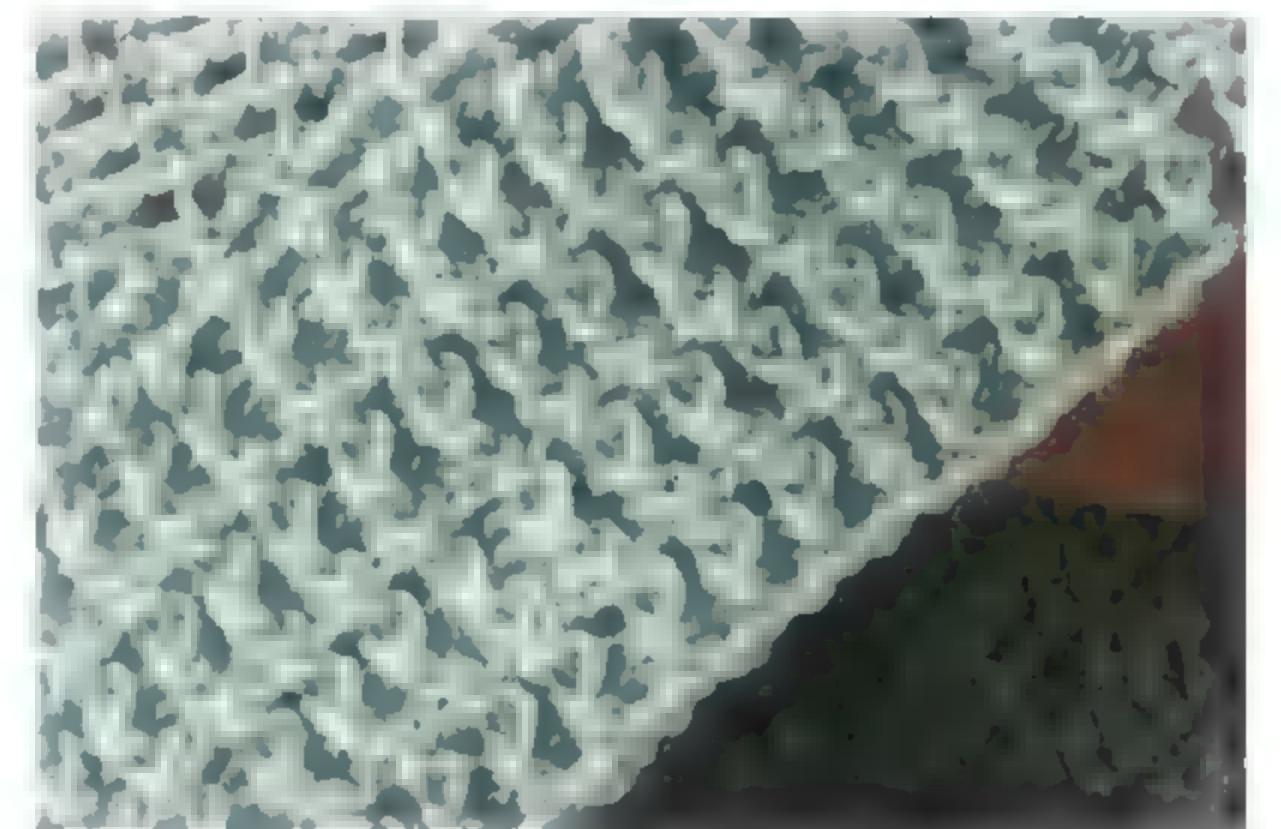
Row 3 1dc, 2FPdtr around first 2 unworked FPdtr, 5dc, 2FPdtr around next 2 unworked FPdtr, skip 2 sts, 2FPdtr around next 2 unworked FPdtr, 5dc, 2FPdtr around next 2 unworked FPdtr, dc in next st.

From now on, each FPdtr is worked around the next unworked FPdtr from 2 rows below, with the exception of the 'Cable 4' sts, explained in the Abbreviations above.

Row 5 2dc, 2FPdtr 4dc, cable4, 4dc, 2FPdtr, 2dc.



Two sets of three FPdtr crossing each other create the pretty textured single cable bands



Rows of ribbing, made with FPtr and BPtr stitches, elegantly trim the hems and sides

Row 7 3dc, 2FPdtr, 2dc, 2FPdtr, 2dc, 2FPdtr, 2dc, 2FPdtr, 3dc.

Row 9 4dc, 2FPdtr, skip 2 sts, 2FPdtr, 4dc, 2FPdtr, skip 2 sts, 2FPdtr, 4dc.

Row 11 4dc, cable4, 4dc, cable4, 4dc.

Row 13 3dc, 2FPdtr, 2dc, 2FPdtr, 2dc, 2FPdtr, 2dc, 2FPdtr, 3dc.

Row 15 2dc, 2FPdtr, 4dc, 2FPdtr, skip 2 sts, 2FPdtr, 4dc, 2FPdtr, 2dc.

Row 17 1dc, 2FPdtr, 5dc, cable4, 5dc, 2FPdtr, dc in next st.

Row 19 2FPdtr, 5dc, 2FPdtr, 2dc, 2FPdtr, 5dc, 2FPdtr.

Row 21 2FPdtr, 5dc, 2FPdtr, 2dc, 2FPdtr, 5dc, 2FPdtr.

Row 22 As Row 2.

Rows 1-22 form pattern.

PONCHO

BACK

With a 4.5mm hook, ch126.

Foundation row (RS) Ch1, dc in each ch to end, turn. [126 sts]

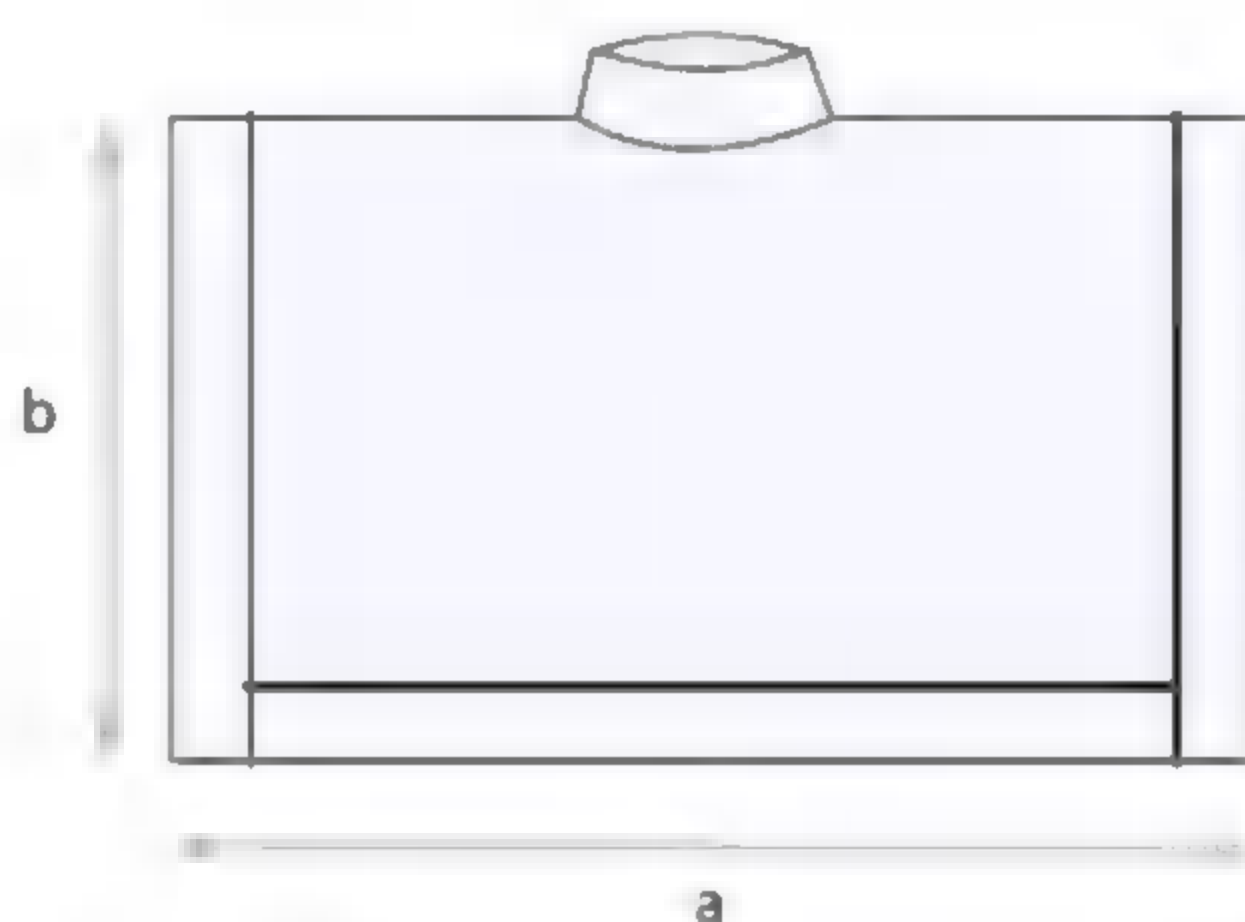
Next row Ch2 (does not count as st throughout), tr in each st to end, turn.

Row 1 Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 33dc, work Row 1 of Patt A, 4dc, work Row 1 of Patt B, 4dc, work Row 1 of Patt A, 33dc, turn.

Row 2 and every WS row Ch2, tr in each st to end, turn. On the row following a cable6 in Patt A, remember to join the gap between the sts as described in the stitch patt above.

Last 2 rows set position of patt.**

Keeping continuity of patt correct throughout, cont until 65 rows have been worked in total.



Width a: 80cm (31½in)

Length b: 64cm (25¼in)

Fasten off.

FRONT

Work as given for Back to **.

Keeping continuity of patt correct throughout, cont until 59 rows have been worked in total.

Fasten off.

SHAPE NECK

Next row (WS) Ch2, 54tr, turn and work on these sts for Right Front. [54 sts]

Next row Ch1, dc2tog, patt to end, turn. [53 sts]

Next row Ch2, tr to last 2 sts, tr2tog, turn. [52 sts]

Rep the last two rows once more, then first row once more. [49 sts]

Fasten off.

With WS facing, skip 18 sts at centre front neck, rejoin yarn.

Next row (WS) Ch2, tr2tog, patt to end, turn. [53 sts]

Next row Ch1, dc to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [52 sts]

Rep the last 2 rows once more, then first row once more. [49 sts]

Fasten off.

HEM (BACK AND FRONT ALIKE)

With a 4.5mm hook and RS facing, rejoin yarn to lower edge.

In the following row, work the FPtr and BPtr around the Foundation dc row of Front and Back.

Row 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as first st), (FPtr around next st, BPtr around next st) to last st, tr in last st, turn.

Last row sets rib.

Work 7 more rows rib.

Fasten off.

SIDE EDGE/CUFF (BOTH ALIKE)

Join both shoulder seams.

With a 4.5mm hook and RS facing, rejoin yarn at bottom of side edge.

Work a row of dc along the side of Front, by working 1 dc in dc row ends and 2 dc in treble or Hem row ends. You should have a total of 226 sts, but the exact number is not important as long as the total is an even number.

Row 1 (RS) Ch2 (counts as first st), (FPtr around next st, BPtr around next st) to last st, tr in last st, turn.

Last row sets rib.

Work 7 more rows rib.

Fasten off.

NECKBAND

With a 4.5mm hook, and RS facing, rejoin yarn to left shoulder seam at neckline edge.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, working evenly into row ends and in sts of Front and Back neck, 9dc down Left Front neck, 18dc across Front, 9dc up Right Front neck, 28dc across Back neck, ss to



first dc to join. [64 sts]

Round 2 Ch2 (counts as first st), (FPtr around first st, BPtr around next st) to last st, tr in last st, ss to top of beg ch-2 to join.

Last round sets rib.

Work 2 more rounds rib, turn work.

Round 5 Ch1, 2dc, (2dc in next st, 5dc) 10 times, 2dc, ss to first dc. [74 sts].

Work 3 rounds rib.

Change to a 5mm hook.

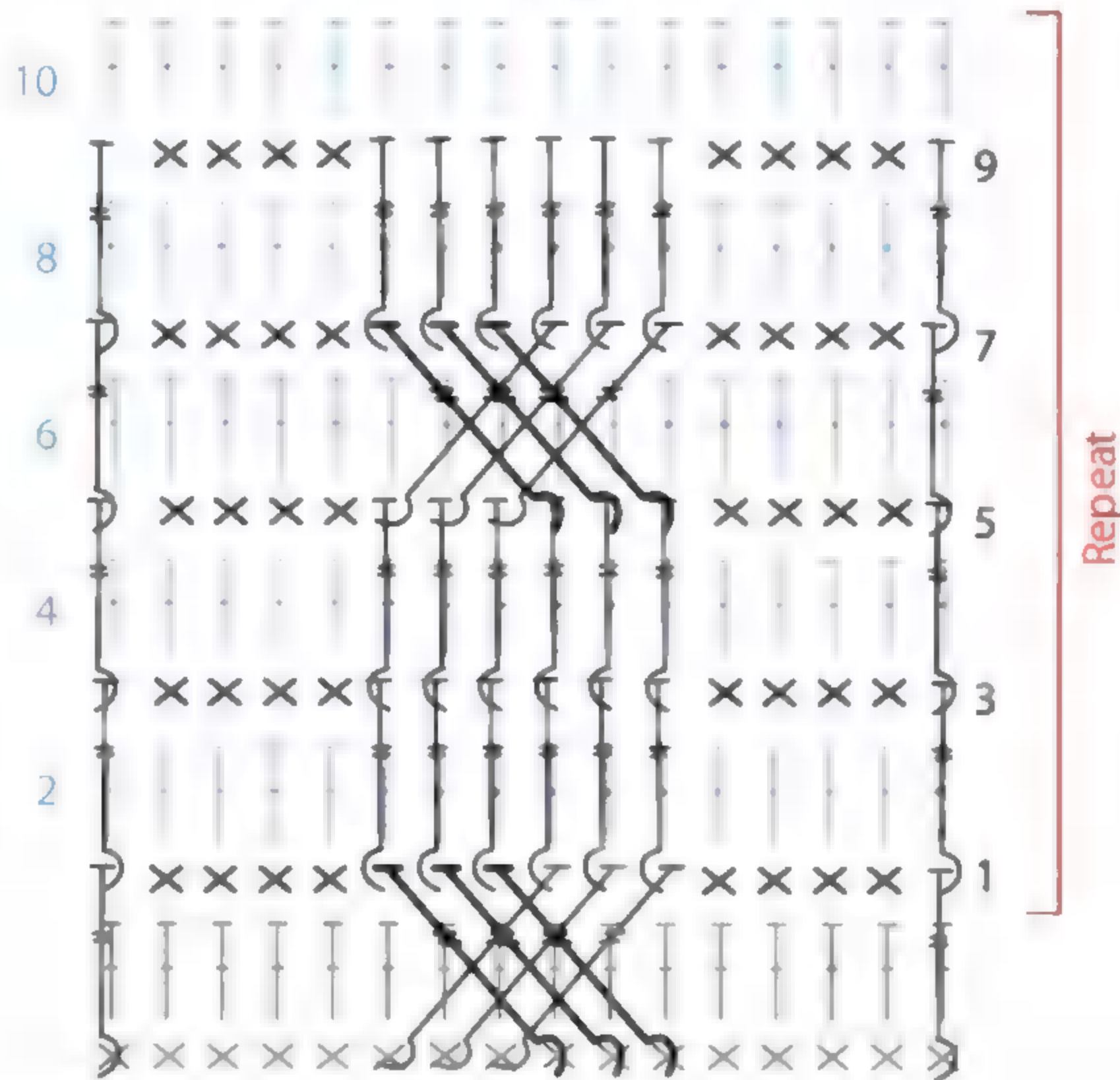
Work 3 rounds rib.

Fasten off and weave in ends.



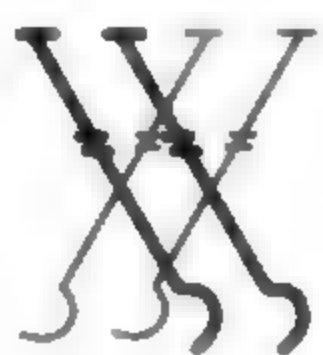
The rib collar is made up of FP and BP trebles and reflects the edgings worked at the hems

Chart A: Single Cable (16 sts)



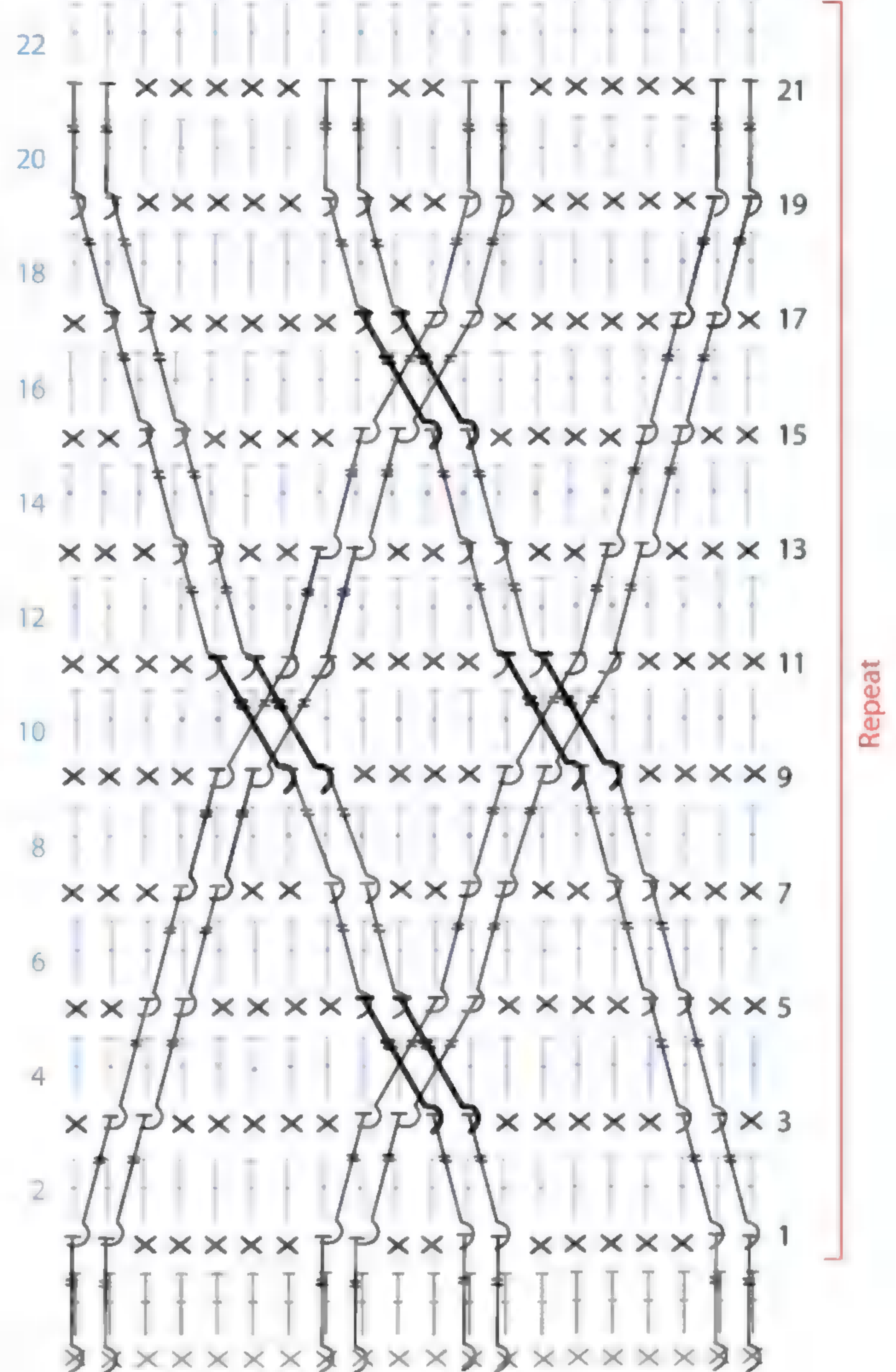
Key

- × Double crochet (dc)
- tr Treble crochet (tr)
- Front Post double treble (FPdtr)



Stitches in bolder weight are worked in front of those of lighter weight

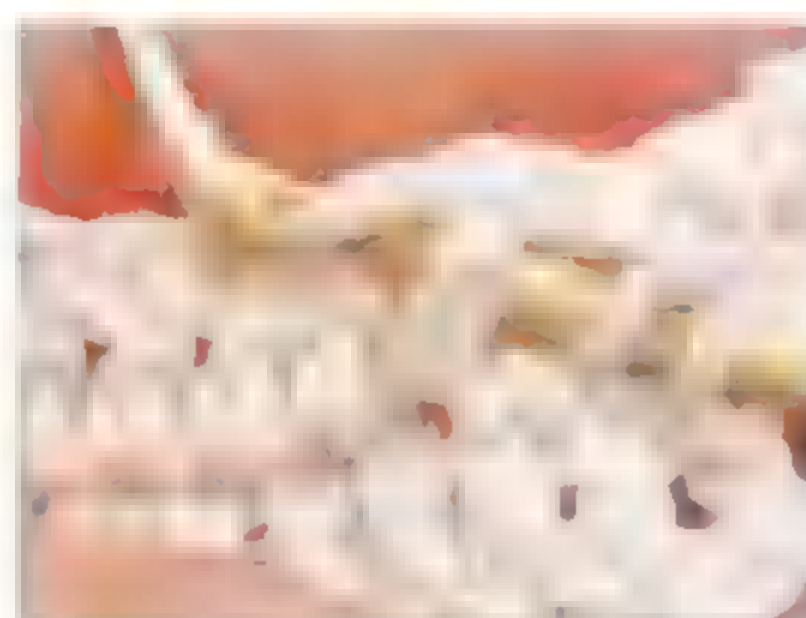
Chart B: Lattice Cable (20 sts)



SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO WORK A FRONT POST TREBLE STITCH



1 Identify the post of the next stitch. Then work yrh (as usual for a treble stitch) and insert hook into the front of the fabric, around the back of the post, and bring out hook on other side of post.



2 Work the rest of the stitch as you usually would for a treble, so yrh and carefully pull the loop of yarn out of the fabric – it should loop around the post of the stitch.



3 Work yrh again and pull the yarn through the first 2 loops. Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops to complete the front post treble stitch.



4 You'll see how the stitch is raised up, compared to the rest of the fabric. Work more front post treble stitches in the same way, repeating from Step 1.

Cheeky chappy

Don't trust the wide-eyed expression of this tricky little maker of mischief, designed by Aniqua Wilkinson





YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Softfun (60% cotton, 40% acrylic, 50g/140m)
 - 2 balls of each:
 - Shade 2623 (brown)
 - Shade 2511 (blue)
 - 1 ball of each:
 - Shade 2408 (black)
 - Shade 2426 (white)
 - Shade 2517 (green)
 - Shade 2427 (orange)
 - A 2.75mm (US C/2) hook
 - A 3.25mm (US D/3) hook
 - A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
 - A 3.75mm (US F/5) hook
 - 2 safety eyes, 15mm
 - 2 white felt circles, 25mm
 - 2 buttons, 20mm
 - Wooden dowel, 1cm diameter, 20cm long
 - Toy stuffing
 - Stitch markers
- For yarn stockists contact Scheepjes www.scheepje.com

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Doll measures 46cm (18in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

5-tr cluster *Yrh, insert hook into st specified, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through 2 loops on hook; rep from * another 4 times, yrh and pull through all loops on hook

FR (foundation ring) Ch4, ss to last ch from hook

For a full list, see page 34

Now that's the look of a boy caught with his hand in the cookie jar. But with his adorable appeal, he'll have charmed his way out of ■ grounding by teatime. His dungarees are fully removable so once made you can switch up his outfit for long-term appeal.

NOTES

The pattern is worked using the amigurumi method. Work sts continuously in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip st. It may help to use a st marker in the first st of each round, moving it up as you work. Prepare white felt circles by cutting a straight line across using the images for guidance. You may need to make a small hole in the centre of the felt to push the safety eye clasp through.

DOLL

HEAD

Using ■ 3.5mm hook and brown, make an FR.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), 12dc into ring. [12 sts]

Round 2 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 dc]

Round 3 (Dc in next 2 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [24 dc]

Round 4 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [30 dc]

Round 5 (Dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [36 dc]

Round 6 (Dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [42 dc]

Round 7 (Dc in next 6 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [48 dc]

Round 8 (Dc in next 7 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [54 dc]

Round 9 (Dc in next 8 sts, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [60 dc]

Rounds 10-20 Dc in each st around.

Position safety eyes over Rounds 12-13 approx 5 sts apart. Place felt circles between the Head and eyes.

Round 21 Dc in first 4 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next 8 sts) 5 times, dc2tog, dc in next ■ sts. [54 dc]

Round 22 (Dc in next 7 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [48 sts]

Stuff Head as you work.

Round 23 Dc in next 3 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next 6 sts) 5 times, dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts. [42 dc]

Round 24 Dc in each st around.

Round 25 (Dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [36 dc]

Round 26 Dc in next 2 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next 4 sts) 5 times, dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts. [30 dc]

Round 27 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [24 sts]

Round 28 Dc in first st, (dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts) 5 times, dc2tog, dc in next st. [18 dc]

Round 29 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) 6 times. [12 dc]

Rounds 30-31 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.



Make a hair cap, then hook and attach strips of hair made from chains and slip stitches

HAIR CAP

Using a 3.5mm hook and black, make an FR.

Rounds 1-8 (RS) Repeat Rounds 1-8 of Head. [54 dc]

Rounds 9-15 Dc in each st around.

Round 16 (Dc, htr, tr, dtr, dtr, tr, htr, dc) over next 9 sts; rep from * another 5 times, ss to top of beg dc. [60 sts]

Fasten off.

HAIR

Using a 3.5mm hook and black, ch16.

Row 1 Ss in last ch from hook (first Hair loop made, PM), *ch15, ss in 14th ch from loop (Hair loop made); rep from * another 50 times.

Fasten off leaving a long tail.

Pin marked Hair loop to front centre of Hair Cap and position Hair so it runs down the centre of Hair Cap and back up to centre front. Use the yarn tail to secure the Hair into position.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using a 2.75mm hook and brown, ch8.

Row 1 Htr in second ch from hook, tr in next ch, 2dtr in next 2 ch, tr in next ch, htr in next ch, ss in final ch.

Fasten off.

BODY

Using a 3.5mm hook and white, make an FR.

Rounds 1-13 (RS) As Rounds 1-13 of Head. [60 dc]

Round 14 Dc in next 4 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next ■ sts) 5 times, dc2tog, dc in next 4 sts. [54 dc]

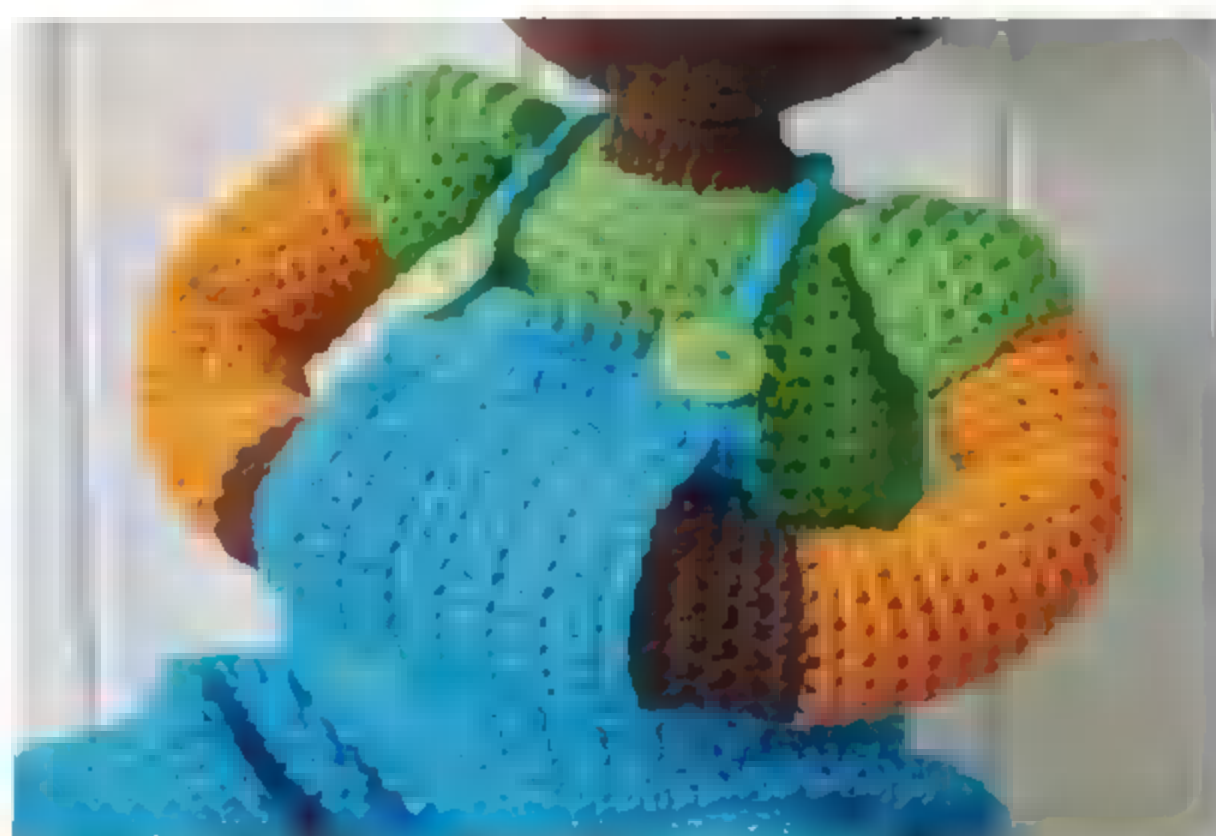
Change to brown.

Round 15 Dc in bl of each st around.

Round 16 Dc in next 27 sts, 5-tr cluster in next st, dc in remaining 26 sts.

Round 17 Dc in each st around.

Change to green.



Make the front pocket of the dungarees separately, then stitch it to the bib section



The straps are worked from the back bib and include buttonholes on the front end

Round 18 Dc in each st around.

Stuff Body as you work.

Round 19 (Dc in next 7 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [48 dc]

Rounds 20-23 Dc in each st around.

Round 24 Dc in first 3 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next 6 sts) 5 times, dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts. [42 dc]

Rounds 25-29 Dc in each st around. [42 dc]

Rounds 30-32 As Rounds 25-27 of Head.

[24 dc]

Change to brown.

Round 33 (Working in bl only) As Round 28 of Head. [18 dc]

Rounds 34-35 Dc in each st around.

Place dowel into Body and position last round of Head inside the last round of Body to create a neck; the dowel will extend up into the Head. Using brown, sew Head and Body together.

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Using a 3.5mm hook and white, make an FR.

Rounds 1-7 (RS) As Rounds 1-7 of Head. [48 dc]

Round 8 (Working in bl only) Dc in next 13 sts, htr in next 22 sts, dc in next 13 sts.

Change to orange.

Round 9 Dc in first 13 sts, dc in bl of next 22 sts, dc in next 13 sts.

Rounds 10-11 Dc in each st around.

Round 12 Dc in next 13 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts) 5 times, dc2tog, dc in next 13 sts. [42 dc]

Round 13 Dc in next 10 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts) 5 times, dc2tog, dc next 10 sts. [36 dc]

Round 14 Dc in next 7 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts) 5 times, dc2tog, dc in next 7 sts. [30 dc]

Round 15 Dc in next 4 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next 2 sts) 5 times, dc2tog, dc in next 4 sts. [24 dc]

Rounds 16-18 Dc in each st around.

Change to brown.

Round 19 Dc in bl of each st around.

Rounds 20-45 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

Stuff Legs. Use white to whipstitch Legs to Body.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using a 3.5mm hook brown, make an FR.

Rounds 1-2 As Rounds 1-2 of Head. [18 dc]

Round 3 (Dc in next 8 sts, 2dc in next st) twice. [20 dc]

Rounds 4-5 Dc in each st around.

Round 6 Dc in next 9 sts, 5-tr cluster in next st (thumb made), dc in next 10 sts.

Note: When making the second Arm, work the 5-tr cluster into the last st on Round 6.

Round 7 Dc in each st around.

Round 8 (Dc2tog, dc in next 3 sts) 4 times. [16 dc]

Rounds 9-10 Dc in each st around.

Change to orange.

Rounds 11-23 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.

SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

Using a 3.5mm hook and green, ch16.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in last ch from hook to form a ring, dc in each ch around. [16 dc]

Rounds 2-4 Dc in each st around.

Position Sleeve around Arm so that the sts of Round 23 of the Arm line up with the final round of sts of the Sleeve.

Work next round through fl of sts on Arms and both loops of sts on Sleeve to join.

Round 5 Dc in each st around.

Rounds 6-7 Dc in each st around.

Stuff each Arm, flatten final round and ss across 8 sts to close.

Fasten off.

Sew Arms to Body over Rounds 29-30, 13 sts apart at the front.

DUNGAREES

Dungarees are worked from Legs up. Make Legs first, then join together with chains.

TROUSER LEGS (MAKE 2)

Using a 3.75mm hook and blue, ch36.

Round 1 (RS) Dc in last ch from hook to form a ring, dc in each ch around. [36 dc]

Rounds 2-30 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off first Trouser Leg only.

JOIN TROUSER LEGS

Round 31 Ch3 (ch extension), dc into each st around first Trouser Leg, ch3, dc in each st around second Trouser Leg. [72 dc, 2 ch-3 sps]

Round 32 Dc in fl of next 3 ch, dc in each st on first Trouser Leg, dc in fl of next 3 ch, dc in rem 36 sts. [78 dc]

Rounds 33-37 Dc in each st around.

Round 38 (Dc in next 11 sts, dc2tog) 6 times. [72 dc]

Rounds 39-40 Dc in each st around.

Round 41 Dc in next 5 sts, (dc2tog, dc in next 10 sts) 5 times, dc2tog, dc in next 5 sts. [66 dc]

Rounds 42-43 Dc in each st around.

Round 44 (Dc in next 9 sts, dc2tog) 6 times.

[60 dc]

Rounds 45-49 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off and use yarn tail from first Trouser Leg to close the hole at the join.

BIB

Mark out 20 sts across centre front of Trousers. With RS facing, join blue into marked st furthest to the right.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in next 20 sts, turn. [20 dc]

Rows 2-4 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Row 5 Ch1, dc in first 2 sts, dc2tog, dc in next 12 sts, dc2tog, dc in final 2 sts, turn. [18 dc]

Rows 6-8 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Row 9 Ch1, dc in first 2 sts, dc2tog, dc in next 10 sts, dc2tog, dc in final 2 sts, turn. [16 dc]

Row 10 Ch1, dc in first 2 sts, dc2tog, dc in next 8 sts, dc2tog, dc in final 2 sts, turn. [14 dc]

Fasten off.

BACK AND STRAPS

Skip 15 sts from Bib and join blue into next st.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in next 10 sts, turn.

Rows 2-4 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Row 5 Ch1, dc in first st, *ch30, ss in sixth ch from hook (buttonhole made), ss in next 24 ch**, dc in next 8 sts; rep from * to **, dc in final st.

Fasten off.

FRONT POCKET

Using a 3.25mm hook and blue, ch6.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook, dc in each ch across, turn. [5 dc]

Row 2 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Row 3 Ch16, dc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch across, dc in next 5 sts, turn. [20 dc]

Rows 4-17 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Row 18 Ch1, dc in first 5 sts, turn leaving rem 15 sts unworked. [5 dc]

Row 19 Ch1, dc in each st across.

Fasten off.

Sew the Pocket to the front of the Dungarees; you can use the image as a guide.

TO FINISH

Use the images for guidance when making up the Doll.

Pin Hair Cap into place; once happy with the position sew into place using black.

Using brown, sew a nose using straight horizontal sts. Using white, sew a mouth below the nose. Using black, sew eyebrows with small sts that curve around the top of the white felt. Sew each Ear in front of the Hair Cap, either side of the Head.

Sew a button on each top corner of the Bib of the Dungarees, place Dungarees onto Doll and secure Straps over buttons.

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HANNAH'S JOURNAL

...from the studio

With such a wealth of borders out there, how are you ever going to decide what looks best on that blanket? Hannah Cross shares her method



"I enjoy creating pops of contrast with texture and colour"

Recently, I was sat crocheting yet another blanket when my husband said something that completely stopped me in my tracks: "I like the border you've started". I couldn't believe my ears. It was indeed a border I had started but I hadn't turned the corner or changed colour and had no idea how he knew! When I asked him he replied that it was obvious as it looked like I was 'completing the balance' of the blanket. I'm still a little amazed at the conversation (and proud that some of my crochet and design influence must have finally rubbed off), and I got me thinking about what makes the perfect border.

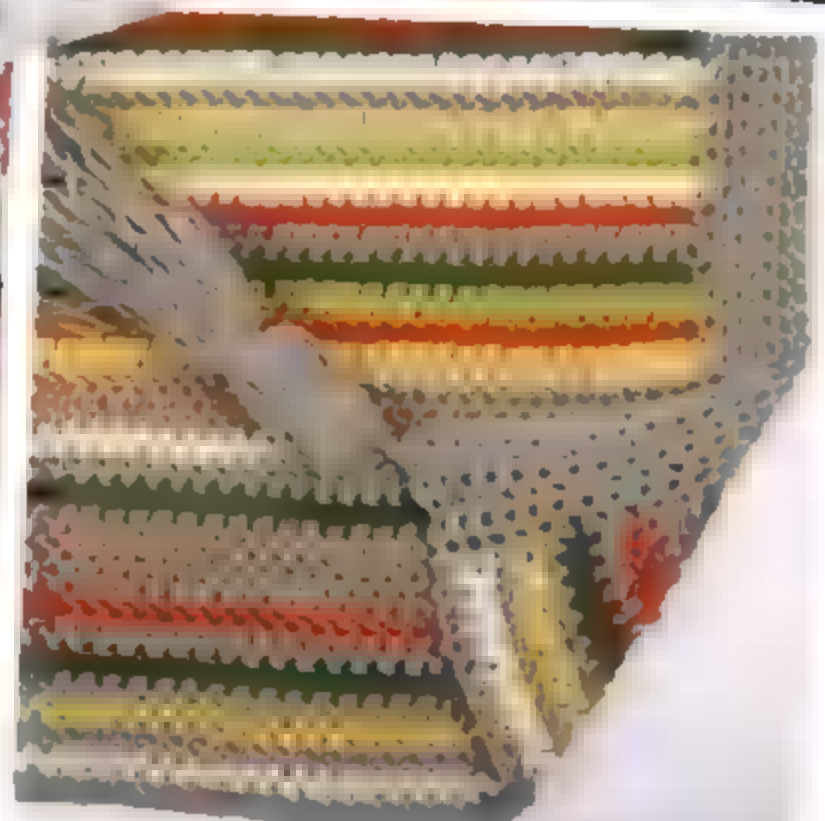
CHOOSING THE RIGHT BORDER

My style of borders is fairly consistent. I tend to go for simple, classic borders that pull the elements of the project together. For example, if it's a blanket that incorporates lots of colours in the central design then I would probably use them balanced throughout the border to complete it. However, if it's a one colour project I would tend to use stitch texture to create a new but familiar feel to the border. I really just let the project speak to me and enjoy just going with what feels right. I definitely don't always follow a particular set of rules and I enjoy creating pops of contrast with texture and colour.

When considering all these things, I believe that the biggest key to the right border is balance, considering elements like depth, stitch texture, colour, simplicity and complexity. Borders should reflect the overall feel of the project. While there are lots of elements to think about, my best advice would be not to worry too much about it; just have fun and experiment with a few styles before settling on one.

ADDING BELLS AND WHISTLES

There's a growing trend for using mixed crafts to create at the moment and I'm absolutely loving it! A border is the perfect place to work this, and there are so many options to choose from (depending on what you're making, of course). Why not add a pompom edge? A lace trim? A beaded border? A great big fringe (am I getting carried away)? There are so many sources of inspiration on social media and in publications that you need never worry about lack of ideas of how to mix your crafts. However, if you're a bit more of a crochet traditionalist then why not try and emulate some of these styles with your hook? One of my blanket makes features a border that looks like pompoms but is actually crocheted, and I have also made countless fringe borders (mainly from ends that I can't be bothered to weave in – but that's our secret!).





THE LIFE TO AN END
SINGLES, SINGLES, BOTTLES

CALCULATING A BORDER - THE TECHNICAL BIT

I have to admit that my tendency for simplicity in borders comes mainly from the fact that tricky and intricate borders make my head hurt. Calculating the edges and corner increases of complex stitch repeats in my experience is never worth it for me, as I always change my mind and choose something more simple for aesthetic reasons anyway. If you do want to go for something fancy though, I would always recommend you plan it out in advance. If you've spent an age making the project and working a first round of stitches for the border, the last thing you want to find is that the repeat doesn't fit into the space you have or that it makes it pucker or adds too much volume. Work out your repeats and make sure that your project lays nice and flat (perhaps even block it lightly) before adding your border and you'll be fine. If you do want to go for something a little bit more complex, don't be afraid to pinch it from another similar pattern! Even if you end up adapting it to suit your chain spaces etc, it's almost always easier to work this way than making it up from scratch.

WHEN TO BE BRAVE

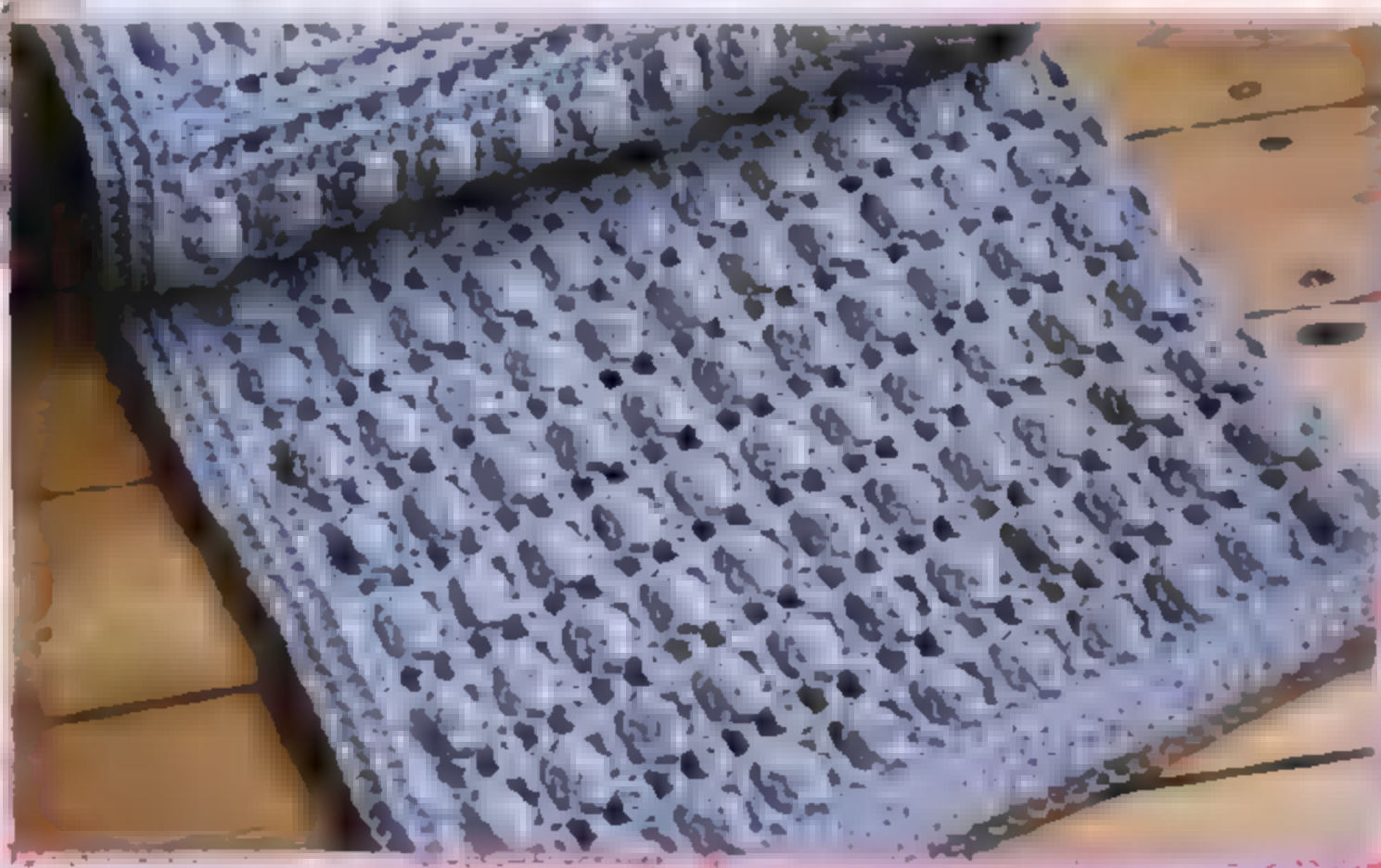
When I say my style is simple, sometimes that even means not adding a border at all. There really are no rules and if you don't feel a project needs one, then don't add one! It's all down to personal taste, of course, but it's absolutely OK to have a project that feels balanced and complete without a border to finish it off. When I complete the body of a project I always block it lightly, lay it out, step back and really think about whether it really needs anything more adding to it. Quite often it will just feel right as it is, and if it does then be brave enough not to add one, regardless of what tradition (or indeed the pattern) says. As for me, I have an insightful new border expert in the shape of my husband, so of course all further decisions will be run past him!

Keep up with Hannah online at www.hanjancrochet.com, or follow her on Instagram @hanjancrochet

MY BORDER STYLE



I love using simple, short stitches like double or half treble crochet to add some weight and definition to the edge of projects. I often use back loop stitches to add texture and keep corners as simple as possible, to make them easier to count and give a lovely flat finish.



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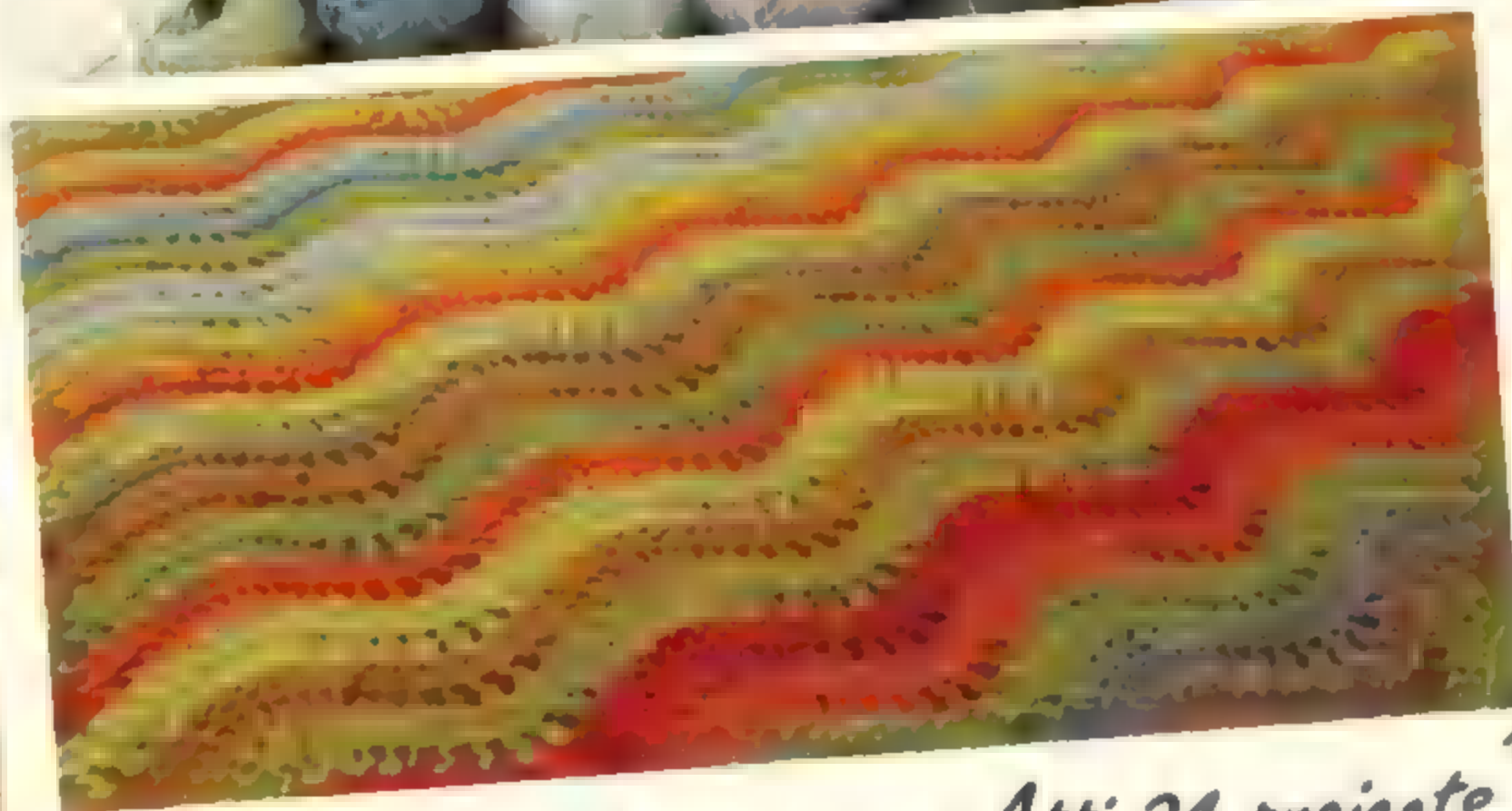
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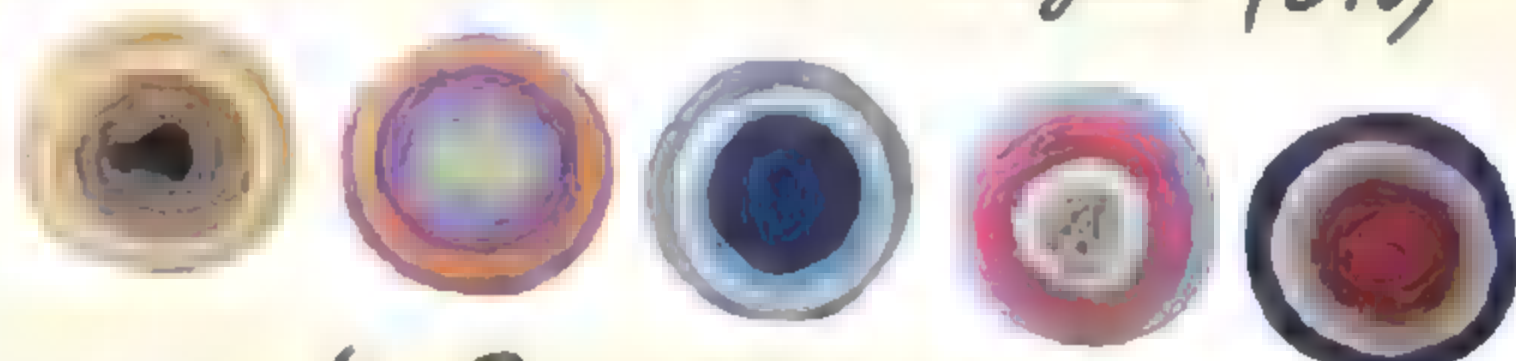


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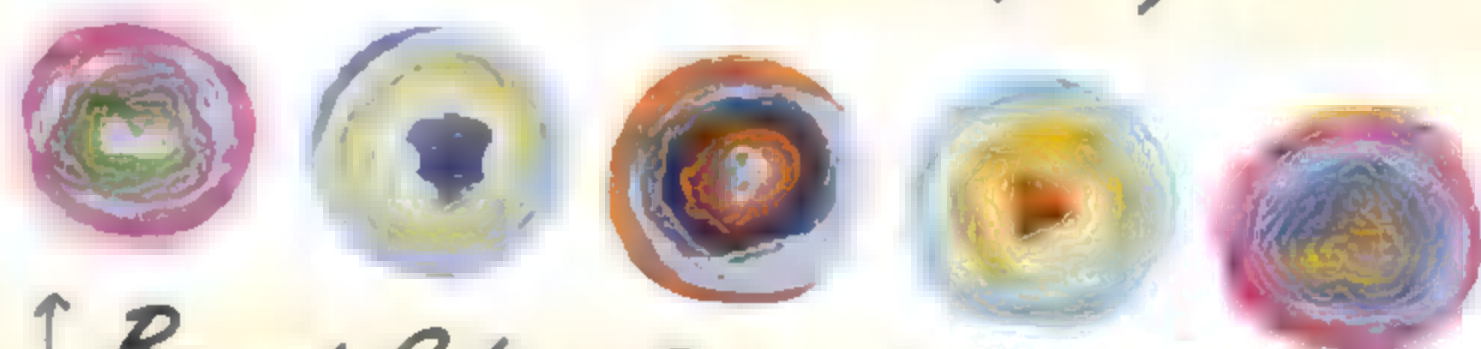
*All these colour change
yarn cakes and more in stock!*



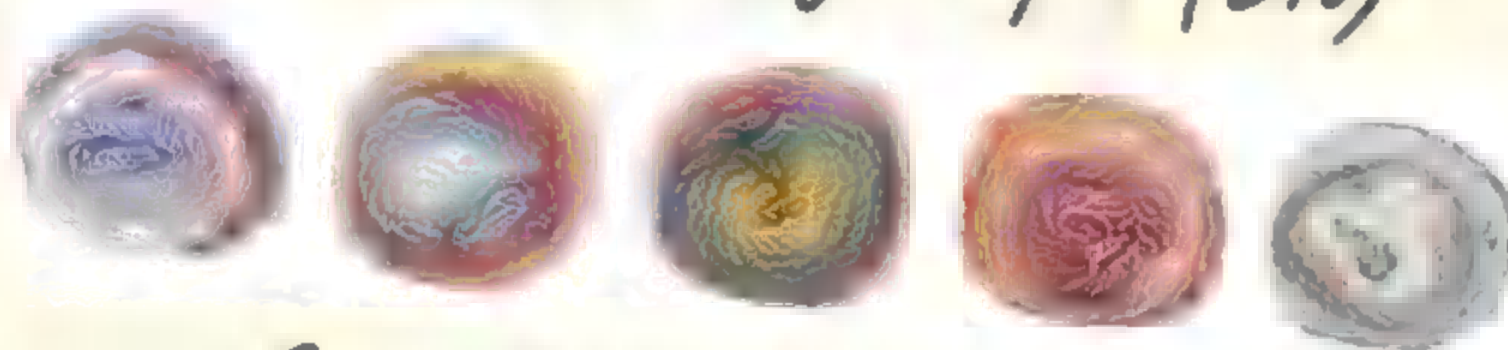
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Making the cut

Customise sleeve lengths and collar styles for a tailor-made wardrobe. By Emma Friedlander-Collins



YOU WILL NEED

- Cascade 220 (100% wool, 100g/200m)
- A small amount of each:
- Yarn A Lavender Violet (9659)
- Yarn ■ Hot Pink (9469)
- Yarn C Twilight Blue (9568)
- Yarn D Blueberry Heather (9655)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A sweatshirt

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TENSION

It is important (especially for the sleeves) that your tension is not too tight or too loose; add or subtract dc sts to the running sts to make it even

MEASUREMENTS

This project can be adapted to fit the measurements of most round-necked, long-sleeved sweatshirts and tops

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 38

Easy edging is the simplest way to transform a top. This hack isn't just for sleeves that are too long; you could cut a section out and make them shorter if you prefer, or leave them out completely for a slouchy tee.

NOTES

Sweatshirt is embellished around the neck and upper arms. The sleeves have been cut and rejoined with ■ strip of crochet. To prepare the sweatshirt, fold in half lengthways and cut off neck ribbing. With the sweatshirt still folded, line up the sleeves on top of each other. Cut where you want the embellishment to be positioned.

SWEATSHIRT TRIMS

NECKLINE

Using Yarn A, sew a running stitch 1cm in from around edge of neck. Try to make each st approx 1cm wide.

Round 1 (RS) Join Yarn A into any st, ch1, 2dc in each st around, working 3dc intermittently if you feel the fabric of the sweatshirt is being pulled out of shape, ss to top of beg dc.

Fasten off.

Round 2 (RS) Join Yarn B into any st, ch1, dc into each st around, ss to top of beg dc.

Fasten off.

Round 3 Using Yarn C, rep Round 2.

Fasten off.

SLEEVES

Using Yarn C, sew a running stitch across the



Cut the sleeves in two and rejoin them with coloured strips worked in double crochet

edge of the Sleeve as for Neckline.

Round 1 (RS) Join Yarn C into any st and rep Round 1 of Neckline.

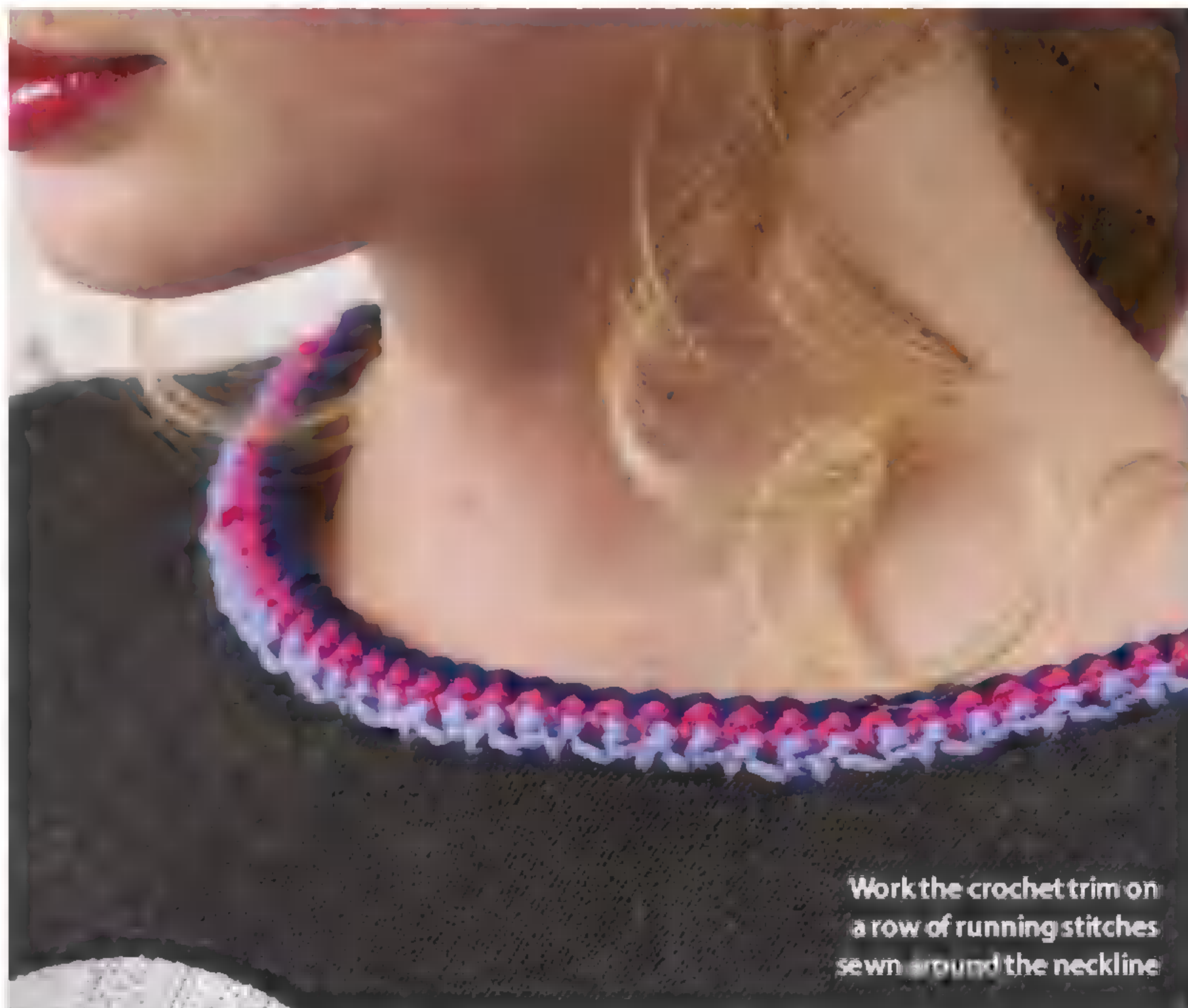
Fasten off.

Rounds 2-5 Using Yarns in order B, A, D and C, work a round of dc in each colour.

Fasten off after each row.

Using Yarn C, sew bottom of Sleeve to the back loops only of the sts from Round 5.

Fasten off and weave in ends.



Work the crochet trim on a row of running stitches sewn around the neckline

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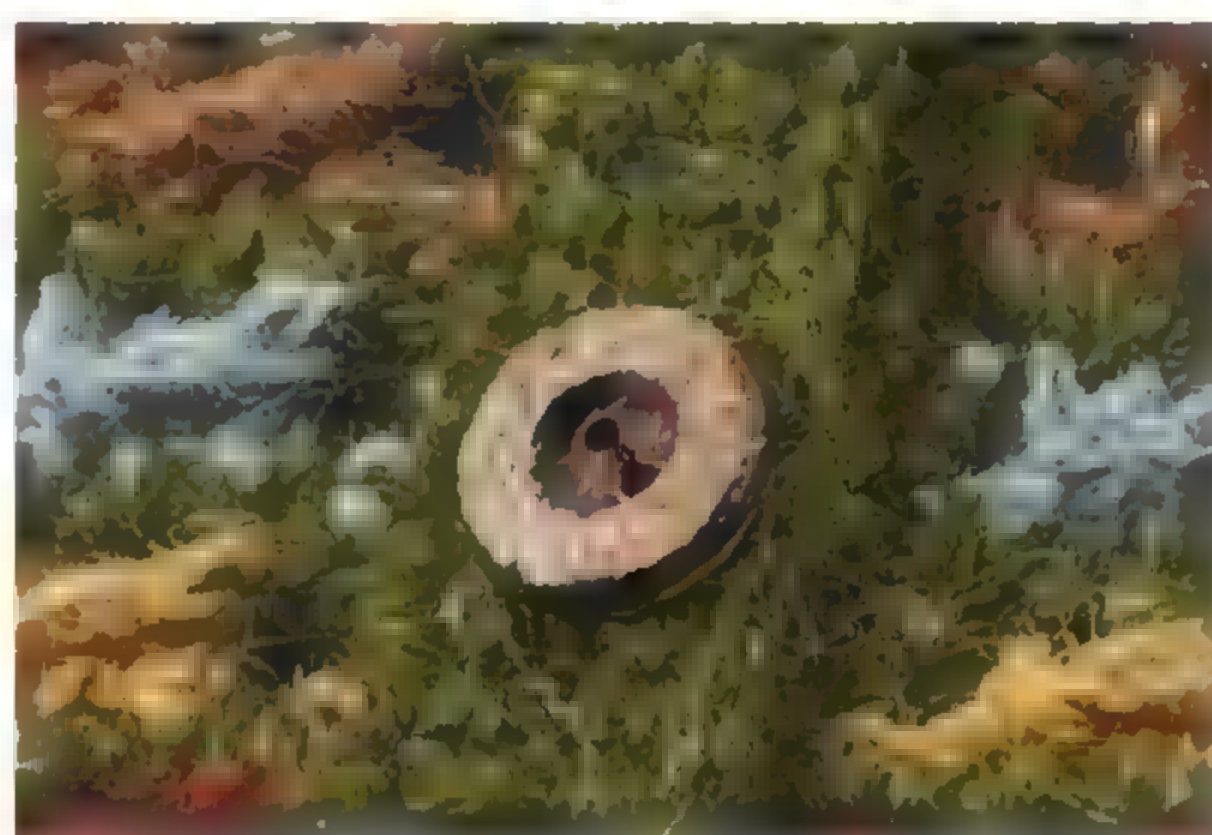
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YOU WILL NEED

- Rowan Felted Tweed DK (50% wool, 25% alpaca, 25% viscose, 50g/175m)
- Yarn A Lotus Leaf (205)
- Yarn B Eden (209)
- Yarn C Mineral (181)
- Yarn D Ginger (154)
- Yarn E Vaseline Green (204)
- Yarn F Camel (157)
- Yarn G Avocado (161)
- Yarn H Zinnia (198)
- Yarn J Cinnamon (175)
- See table for measurements and yarn quantities
- A 4mm (US G/6) crochet hook
- 5 buttons, 1.5cm
- For yarn stockists contact LoveCrafts 01409 404010 www.lovecrafts.com

TENSION

18 sts and 12 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over stitch pattern using a 4mm hook or size needed to obtain stated tension

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 90

Walks are one of the pleasures of autumn, and this high-button cardigan is the perfect style for keeping you cosy while stomping through the underbrush. Crossed stitches create a texture that really makes this design.

NOTES

If working this garment in one colour you will need the equivalent of 9 (10: 12: 13) 50g balls. Using different colours will increase yarn usage.

This Cardigan is worked as a top-down yoke, in one piece to the armholes. It is then divided at the armholes for the Sleeves and Body and button bands are added.

To save weaving in all the ends, you can work over yarn ends on the dc row of the stitch pattern. Crochet over the other ends when the button bands are worked. Change colour on the last yrh of the previous stitch.

The stitch pattern is written out below before the start of the main instructions. The designer of this garment is left-handed, so if you are right-handed your crossed sts will cross in the opposite direction to those shown in the image.

STITCH PATTERN

A multiple of 4 sts plus 2.

When working the dc row, ensure the crossed dtr remains free on the other side. It can be easy to catch it in by mistake.

In Row 1, work the dtr in the skipped st as follows:

Yrh twice, insert hook from back to front in skipped st and complete the dtr as usual by working in front of the previous 3 tr.

Row 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as tr) (skip next st, tr in next 3 sts, dtr in skipped st) rep to last st, tr in last st, turn.

Row 2 (WS) Ch1 (does not count as st) dc in

each st to end, turn.

The colour stripe sequence, starting with Row 1 of the pattern, is as follows:

Row 1 Yarn D

All WS rows (dc rows) Yarn A

Row 3 Yarn E

Row 5 Yarn F

Row 7 Yarn G

Row 9 Yarn H

Row 11 Yarn J

Row 13 Yarn B

Row 15 Yarn C

This sequence repeats once.

Third sequence has Yarn B on all WS (dc) rows.

Fourth sequence has Yarn C on all WS (dc) rows.

Fifth sequence has Yarn A on all WS (dc) rows.

CARDIGAN

YOKE

With Yarn A, ch82 (90: 90: 94).

Foundation row (WS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout patt), dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [82 (90: 90: 94) sts]

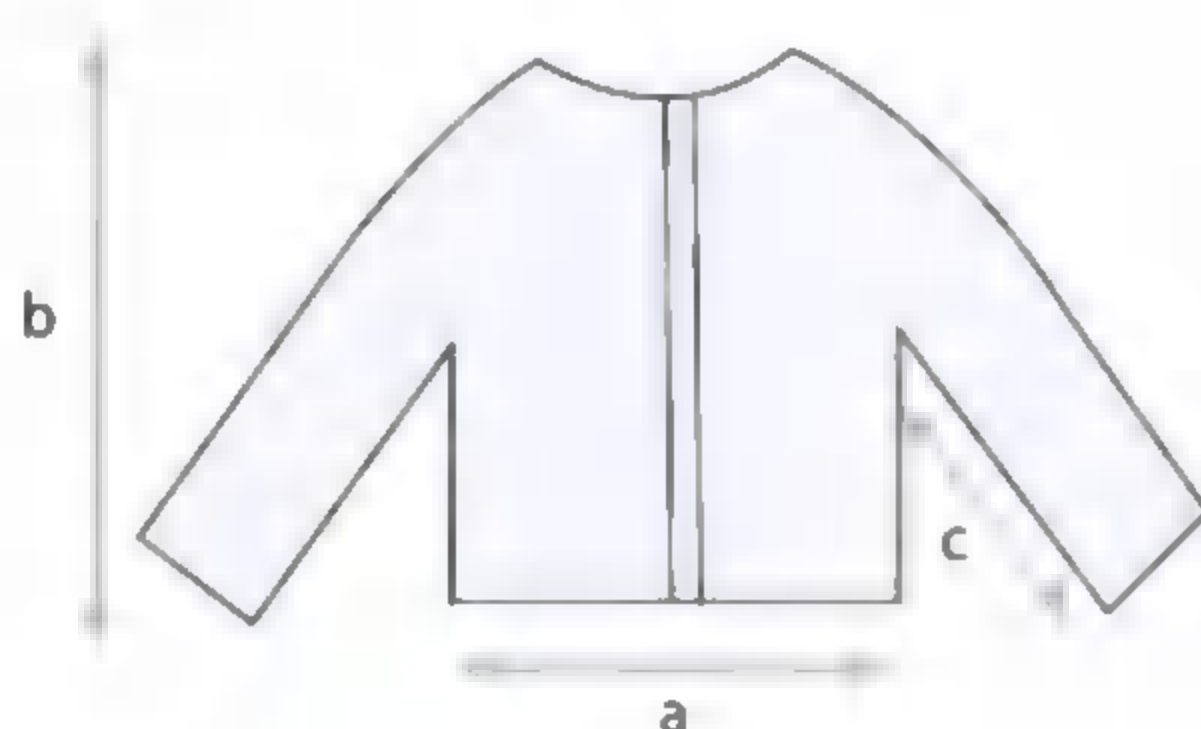
Work Row 1 of the Stitch Pattern as given above, with Yarn D as shown in the stripe sequence.

YOKE INCREASES

The Yoke increase pattern begins on Row 2 of the Stitch Pattern. All subsequent increase rows are worked on WS (dc) rows. Keep the Stitch Pattern and colour sequence correct throughout.

Row 2 (increase row) Ch1, dc in first st, (2dc in next st, 3dc) 20 (22: 22: 23) times, dc in last st, turn. [102 (112: 112: 117) sts]

Increase 20 (22: 22: 23) sts evenly on each of the following 3 WS (dc) rows. On the first of these rows, increase every 5th st, then the next increase row will be every 6th st, and so on. [162 (178: 178: 186) sts]



Bust width a: 46 (52.5: 57: 63.5)cm, 18 (20½: 24½: 25)in

Length b: 59 (61: 63: 65)cm, 23¼ (24: 24¾: 25½)in

Sleeve Length c: 40cm, 15¾in

SIZE		8-10	12-14	16-18	20-22
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46
ACTUAL BUST (APPROX)	cm	92	105	114	127
	in	36¼	41¼	44¾	49¾
TOTAL LENGTH	cm	59	61	63	65
	in	23¼	24	24¾	25½
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	40	40	40	40
	in	15¾	15¾	15¾	15¾
YARN A	50g	2	3	3	3
YARN B	50g	2	2	3	3
YARN C	50g	2	2	2	3
YARNS D, E, F, G, H & I	50g	1	1	2	2

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

Work 3 rows in Stitch Pattern without increasing.

Next row (WS) Increase 20 (22: 22: 23) sts evenly. [182 (200: 200: 209) sts]

Repeat the last 4 rows a further 2 (2: 3: 3) times. [222 (244: 266: 278) sts]

SIZE 12-14 ONLY

Work a Row 1 of the Stitch Pattern.

Next row (WS) Increase 6 sts evenly during the row. [250 sts]

ALL SIZES

Continue working in Stitch Pattern without increasing until Yoke measures 24 (25: 26: 27)cm from the Foundation row, ending with a Row 1. [222 (250: 266: 278) sts]

DIVIDE FOR SLEEVES AND BODY

Next row (WS) Ch1, 35 (40: 44: 47)dc for Front, ch14 (15: 15: 20) for underarm, skip next 42 (45: 45: 44) sts for Sleeve, dc in next 68 (80: 88: 96) sts for Back, ch14 (15: 15: 20) for underarm, skip next 42 (45: 45: 44) for Sleeve, dc in last 35 (40: 44: 47) for Front, turn.


[166 (190: 206: 230) working sts]

Continue on these 166 (190: 206: 230) sts until work measures 59 (61: 63: 65)cm measuring from shoulder to hem and ending with a WS (dc) row.

Work a final Row 2 in Yarn A.

Fasten off.

SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

The Sleeves continue the pattern and stripe sequence  set, but are now worked in the round with the RS facing throughout. The stitch count is a multiple of 4 because there are no first and last sts when the stitch pattern is worked in the round.

Rejoin the yarn in the centre of the underarm ch with RS facing.

Foundation round (RS) Ch1, dc in each st and ch around, ss to first dc. [56 (60: 60: 64) sts]

Round 1 (RS) Ch3 (counts as first tr throughout), tr in next 2 sts, dtr in unworked st before beg ch-3, skip next st (tr in next 3 sts, dtr in previous unworked st, skip next st) repeat around, ss to top of beg ch-3.

Round 2 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to first dc. Repeat Rounds 1 and 2 until Sleeve measures 40cm from underarm and ending with a dc round.

Finish with a Round 1 and Yarn A.

Fasten off.

LEFT BUTTON BAND

Rejoin Yarn A at neckline edge of Left Front with RS facing.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc into every dc row end and 2dc into every tr row end to hem, turn.

Rows 2-5 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Fasten off.

RIGHT BUTTON BAND

Rejoin Yarn A at hem edge of Right Front with RS facing.

Work 5 rows of dc as for Left Button Band, but place buttonholes in the second dc row (third if left-handed) as follows:

Ch1, 2dc, (ch2, skip 2 sts, 7dc) 5 times, dc in each st to end, turn. On the following row work 2 dc into each ch-2 sp.

Fasten off.

TO FINISH

Weave in all ends. The designer chose not to block this garment to avoid flattening the texture of the yarn. If you prefer to block please follow the manufacturer's care instructions on the ball band.

Attach buttons to correspond to buttonholes.



You'll work the front and back of this cardigan in rows, and crochet the sleeves in the round

SAVE OR SPLURGE

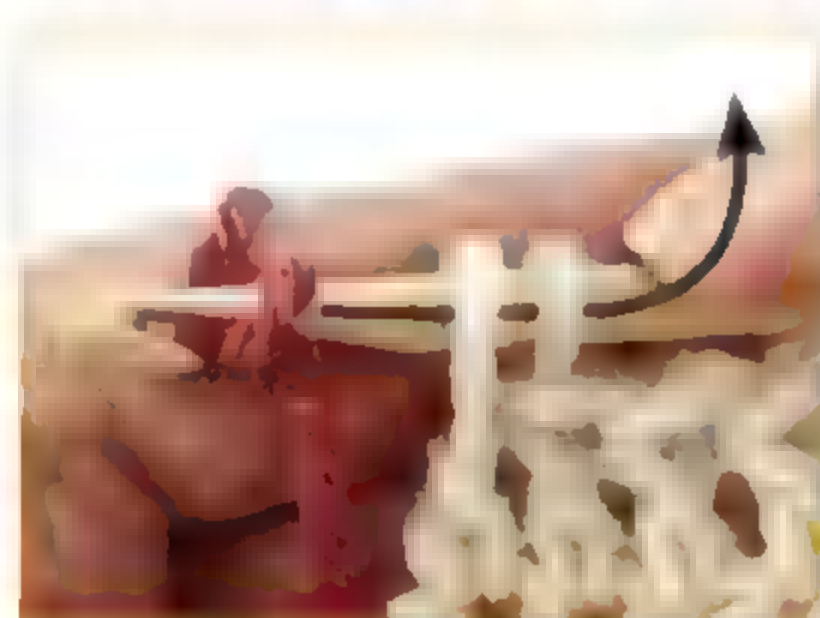
For a more budget-friendly make, try Sirdar Harrap Tweed DK. If working the garment in one colour you will need the equivalent of 11 (12: 14: 15) balls. Check hook size, tension and ball length if you use a different yarn.

For yarn stockists  Sirdar 01924 231682 www.sirdar.co.uk

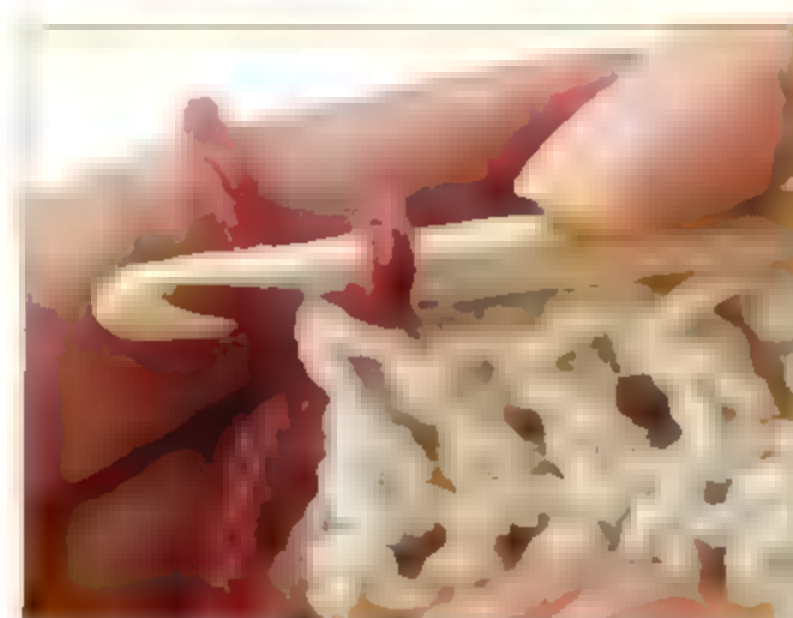
SIMPLE STEPS HOW TO CHANGE COLOUR IN ROWS



1 Start working the last stitch of the last row of the old colour, but stop before you work the final yrh of the stitch. Cut off the old yarn, leaving a tail about 7cm long.



2 Now loop your new yarn colour around the hook, leaving a long tail of yarn (about 7cm long).



3 Pull the new yarn loop through the remaining two loops to finish off the stitch. Pull the old and new yarn ends to tighten the loop on the hook.



4 Now you can work the turning chain of the new row in the new colour (for example, 3ch for treble, or 2ch for half treble). Then work the stitches of the new row in the new yarn colour.

Merry mermaids

Get some 'under the sea' under the tree, with these winged pretties designed by Eleonora Tully





YOU WILL NEED

- Scheepjes Catona (100% cotton, 25g/62.5m)
- 1 ball of Snow White (106)
- Blonde Mermaid**
- A small amount of each:
- Yarn A Powder Pink (238)
- Yarn B Vivid Blue (146)
- Yarn C Emerald (515)
- Yarn D Primrose (522)
- Red-haired Mermaid**
- A small amount of each:
- Yarn A Nude (255)
- Yarn B Apple Granny (513)
- Yarn C Cyan (397)
- Yarn D Hot Red (115)
- Black-haired Mermaid**
- A small amount of each:
- Yarn A Hazelnut (503)
- Yarn B Emerald (515)
- Yarn C Primrose (522)
- Yarn D Jet Black (110)
- Scheepjes Twinkle (88% cotton, 12% polyester, 50g/150m)
- 1 ball of Gold (941)
- Small amounts of black and pink yarn for facial features
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- Toy stuffing
- Stitch markers

For yarn stockists contact
Scheepjes www.scheepjes.com

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Mermaid Angel measures approx
13x15cm (5x6in)

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 9

These pretty mermaid angels certainly know how to have fun, whooshing through the ocean or soaring high above the clouds – and especially while hanging out on your Christmas tree. As flat makes they're an easier alternative to 3D amigurumi.

NOTES

Each Mermaid uses approx 35g of yarn. The Mermaid is made up of two Body pieces, which are joined together at the end and lightly stuffed. The Arms, Wings, Bikini Top and Hair are sewn into place after the Body pieces have been joined. The Arms are worked in a continuous spiral without closing off each round with a ss. You may find it helpful to mark the first st of the round, moving the marker up as you work.

MERMAID ANGELS

BODY

TAIL

Using Yarn B, ch8.

Row 1 (WS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [7 sts]

Row 2 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 2dc in first st, dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in final st, turn. [9 sts]

Row 3 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each st to final st, 2dc in final st, turn. [11 sts]

Rows 4-8 Repeat Row 3. [21 sts]

Row 9 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each st to end, turn. [22 sts]

Rows 10-11 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 12 Ch1, dc in next 5 sts, pm in next st, turn leaving rem 17 sts unworked. [5 sts]

Row 13 (WS) Ch9, ss in second chain from hook, dc in next ch, htr in next ch, 2tr in next ch, 2dtr in next ch, 2tr in next ch, tr in next 2 ch, skip 2 sts from Row 12, *ss to central st from

Row 12, dc in next st, htr in final st, turn. [12 sts]

Row 14 (RS) Repeat Row 13 up to *, ss to central ss in Row 13, working up opposite side of Tail, dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next 2 sts, dc in next 4 sts, ss to final st. [22 sts]

Fasten off.

With RS facing, rejoin yarn to outer st of right side of Tail, dc in next 4 sts, 2dc in next 2 sts, dc in next 4 sts, ss to first st on opposite side of Tail.

Fasten off.

With RS facing rejoin yarn into fifth st to left of marked st from Row 12.

Row 15 (RS) Ch1, skip st at base of ch, dc in next 12 sts, turn. [12 sts]

Row 16 (WS) Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

TORSO

Change to Yarn A.

Rows 17-26 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 27 Ch1, skip st at base of ch, dc in each st to last 2 sts, (dc2tog), turn. [10 sts]

Rows 28-30 As Row 27. [4 sts]

Row 31 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

HEAD

Row 32 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in in each st to final st, 2dc in final st, turn. [6 sts]

Rows 33-37 Ch1, dc in each st to end, turn.

Rows 38-40 As Row 27. [4 sts]

Row 41 Ch1, dc in each st to end.

Fasten off.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using Yarn A, ch4, ss to first ch to form a loop.

Round 1 (WS) Ch1 (does not count as st), 6dc into the loop. [6 sts]

Rounds 2-3 Dc in each st around.

Round 4 (Dc2tog, dc in next st) twice. [4 sts]

Rounds 5-11 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off.



Begin making the mermaid at the tail fins and work up to the head



Use small embroidery stitches to make her eyes and smiling mouth



Whichever shade of yarn you choose for the hair, include some strands of sparkly gold



Make a pair of glorious white wings in double crochet and sew to the mermaid's back

BIKINI TOP

Using Yarn C, ch26.

Row 1 (WS) Dc in second ch from hook and each ch to end. [25 sts]

Row 2 Ch1 (does not count as st), dc in next 7 sts, (skip 2 sts, 7tr in next st, skip 2 sts, dc in next st) 2 times, dc in next 6 sts.

Fasten off.

WINGS (MAKE 2)

Using Snow White, ch14.

Row 1 (WS) Dc in second ch from hook and next 2 ch, 2dc in next ch, dc in next 9 ch, turn. [14 sts]

Row 2 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), dc in next 9 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, turn leaving rem sts unworked. [12 sts]

Row 3 Ch1, dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in each st across, turn. [13 sts]

Row 4 Ch1, skip st at base of ch, dc in next 7 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, turn leaving rem sts

unworked. [10 sts]

Row 5 As Row 3. [11 sts]

Row 6 Ch1, skip st at base of ch, dc in next 6 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, turn. [9 sts]

Row 7 Ch1, dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 5 sts, turn. [10 sts]

Row 8 Ch1, skip st at base of ch, dc in next 5 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next st, turn. [8 sts]

Row 9 Ch1, dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st, dc in next 4 sts. [9 sts]

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Place Body pieces on top of each other and work a round of dc around to join, stuffing lightly as you go. Change colours while working around Body to match colours used and work 3dc into points of Tail.

Using photo as a guide, sew the Arms and Bikini Top into place. Position the Wings at an angle to each other to the back of the Body and sew into place.

Using black yarn, sew small stitches for each eye. Using pink yarn, sew on a mouth. You can use the image as a guide.

HAIR

Using Yarn D, cut 56 strands of yarn each approximately 30cm in length and 7 strands in Gold. Fold each strand in half and attach 1 strand to each of the 14 sts around top of Head. Attach the rest of the Hair to the Head in groups of 7 strands including a strand of Gold as highlights. Start from the top and work down to the rear of the Head.

HANGING LOOP

Attach Yarn B to top of Head, ch30, ss to base of first ch.

Fasten off.

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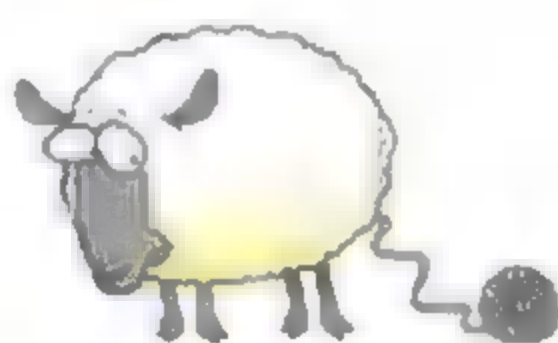


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Let it flow

Designer Sandra Eng is passionate about the power of crochet to calm, soothe and give a rewarding, mindful experience...

Sandra Eng, aka MobiusGirl, has long known the meditative powers of crochet and, thanks to her day job as a psychologist, coupled with her crochet design career, she understands fully the crossover between crafting and mindfulness.

It's a connection that she feels the West has made later than other cultures: "Mindfulness is an age-old practice and Western mental health circles have only recently shone the spotlight on it. In our 'speed of light' society, the practice of slowing down and engaging moment by moment with experience is revolutionary."

"The mental benefits of crochet are numerous," she continues. "From engaging my creative brain to giving my hands a chance to play, I invariably emerge

from a crochet session feeling both soothed and stimulated. Simple stitch patterns allow me to drop into a rhythm that is calming and excellent for practising mindfulness. More complicated patterns challenge my brain and sense of design, and can be invigorating if the level of difficulty is just right. Connecting with the larger crochet community also provides an equally important mental benefit."

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Sandra points out that if you're new to crocheting, it can take a little time to be able to practise it mindfully. "Like all crafts, crochet has a learning curve. Early in my crocheting journey, the balance of frustration to relaxation was definitely skewed. Tense shoulders and a furrowed

brow made regular appearances as I tried to work out where my hook should go.

"Over time, as the stitches came more naturally, I started to really enjoy the benefits of crocheting mindfully. My shoulders dropped, my breathing slowed, and my mind calmed. Once I was practised enough to enter a state of flow while crocheting, the benefits compounded.

"I'm more apt to explore with people the kinds of crafts or hobbies that come naturally to them – individuals typically benefit the most from activities over which they feel a sense of mastery."

MANDALA MAGIC

Mandala-style patterns are a favourite of Sandra's and their geometric designs lend themselves well to her love of rhythmic



stitching, "I love the symmetry of crocheted mandalas, and the maths involved in creating them. I also appreciate the Buddhist practice of creating intricate sand mandalas only to later destroy them. It reminds me of the inherent impermanence in life, and the value of focusing on the process of creating, instead of solely on the outcome."

"I designed my first mandala pattern during a psychology conference. While listening to the speakers, I played with different stitch patterns until my Puffs and Picots Mandala pattern emerged. A side benefit of crocheting is that it helps me to focus on whatever I'm listening to as well."

Sandra has been selling her patterns via Etsy and Ravelry for several years, and has worked on a couple of books. "I was approached by an editor at Interweave asking if I was interested in contributing to a collection of mandala patterns. I jumped at the chance! Some months later, *Modern Crochet Mandalas* was published with 20 of my mandala patterns included."

"Later, another editor from Interweave asked if I was interested in doing my own book. The idea of a book of motifs was theirs, but the implementation was up to me. I had a six-month deadline, which meant a lot of late night crochet and designing after my kids were in bed."

"Going through the book writing and editing process helped me to feel a lot more confident in professional pattern writing, she says. "It seemed a natural next step to sell patterns commercially."

TIME TO SHARE

Sandra also curates a crochet community online. "I started MobiusGirl Crochet Nation [on Facebook] as a place for

like-minded crocheters to share their work and build a sense of online community. My hope was to foster discussion about the intersection of mental health and crochet as well. More recently, it became a platform for my Marguerite Blanket CAL. My hope is to begin to steer the conversation back toward mental health topics now that the CAL has ended."

As well as this she provides tutorials on her website as a way to give back to those she learned from herself. "Much of my crochet learning came from poring over tutorials on designers' blogs," she explains. "It made natural sense to me to try to give back to the crochet community in small ways through providing tutorials. I love witnessing others' excitement and the glimmer of recognition when they master a new technique or stitch."

With all this online activity, Sandra still takes time to enjoy her own personal projects to work on and to discover new stitches. "Recently I've been enamoured with linen stitch. I find the simple repetition of double crochets and chain spaces soothing, and love the endless geometric designs I can make with

the stitch. At the same time, I love overlay crochet, due to the complexity of stitch and colour combinations it allows. It's perfectly suited for beautiful mandalas."

Home decor designs are her preference at the moment, "in part because I started designing before I really understood gauge," she laughs. "That's my guilty crochet designer confession – I'm terrible at being diligent about gauge! I also love the wide range of types of home decor projects. If I want quick gratification, a cushion is a perfect choice. But I can also really dig in with a blanket pattern too."

"I have a couple of blanket projects that are currently underway. Unsurprisingly, they involve geometric designs. There are always commissions and personal projects on the back burner as well."

"I'm also just looking forward to carving out time for reconnecting with the worldwide crochet community. Joining the crochet

community has been one of the most beneficial aspects of becoming proficient in this craft, and the friendships I've developed along the way are invaluable!"

Written by Lucy Evans

"WE ARE CREATURES WHO WANT TO BELONG. AND THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THE SHARED PASSION OF A CRAFT TO DRAW US TOGETHER."



A few of her favourite things

When Sandra puts her hook down...

"I started running six months ago. Most of the rest of my free time is spent with my twelve-year-old and seven-year-old."

Find out more at mobiusgirldesign.com, and you can also follow Sandra on Instagram, @mobiusgirl and join her Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/mobiusgirlcrochetnation.



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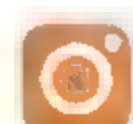
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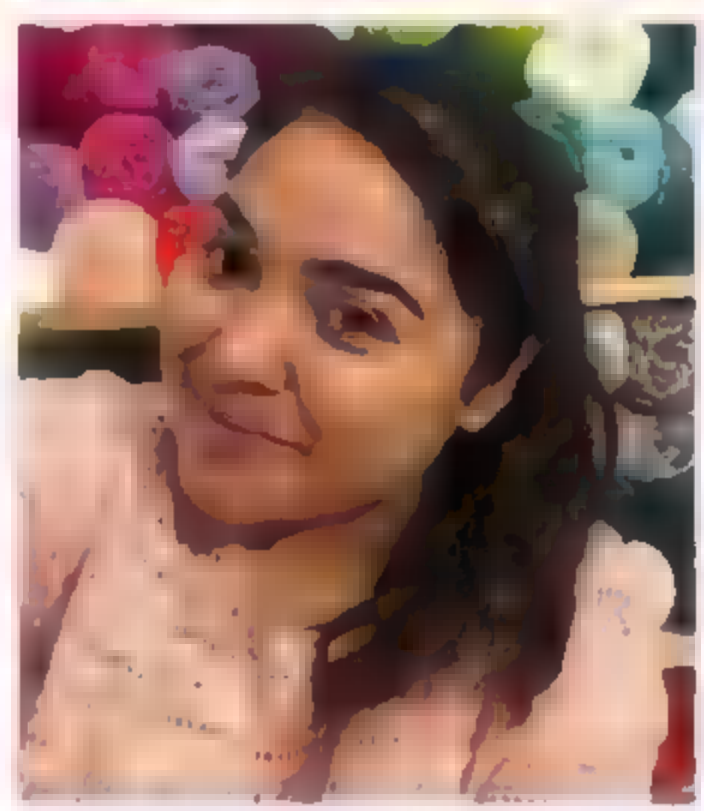
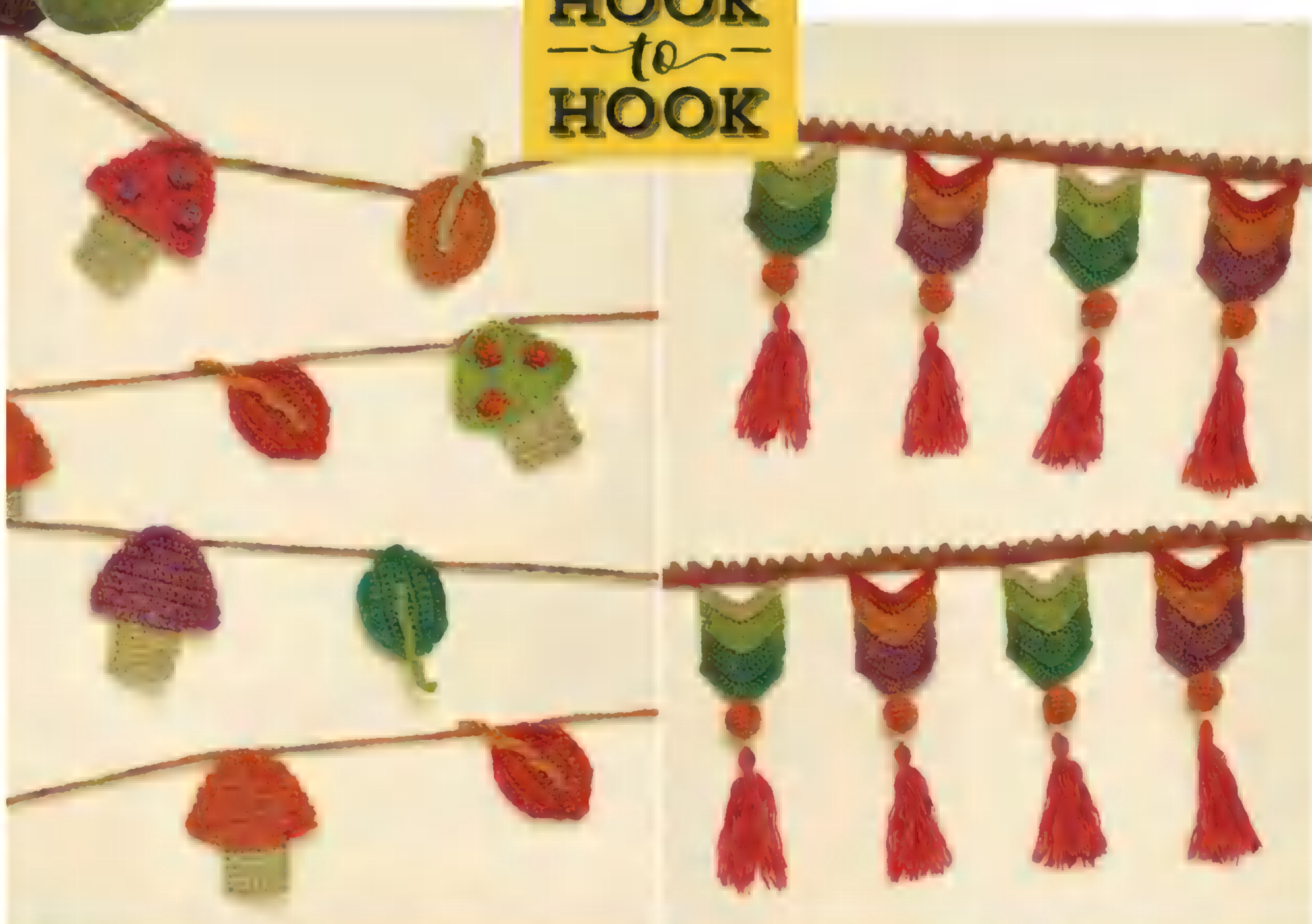
HOOK TO HOOK

'Fall' in love

We challenged two designers to come up with a fab design, each using the same yarn... which is your fave?



HOOK
— to —
HOOK



Michelle Estrada

"I absolutely love autumn! With all of nature's colour changes, I have always thought autumn felt like such a magical time of the year. When I found out the challenge was to make

autumnal bunting I knew that I had to make some fall leaves and mushrooms to express my love for the season and its stunning beauty. I truly hope you enjoy making them as much as I did!"

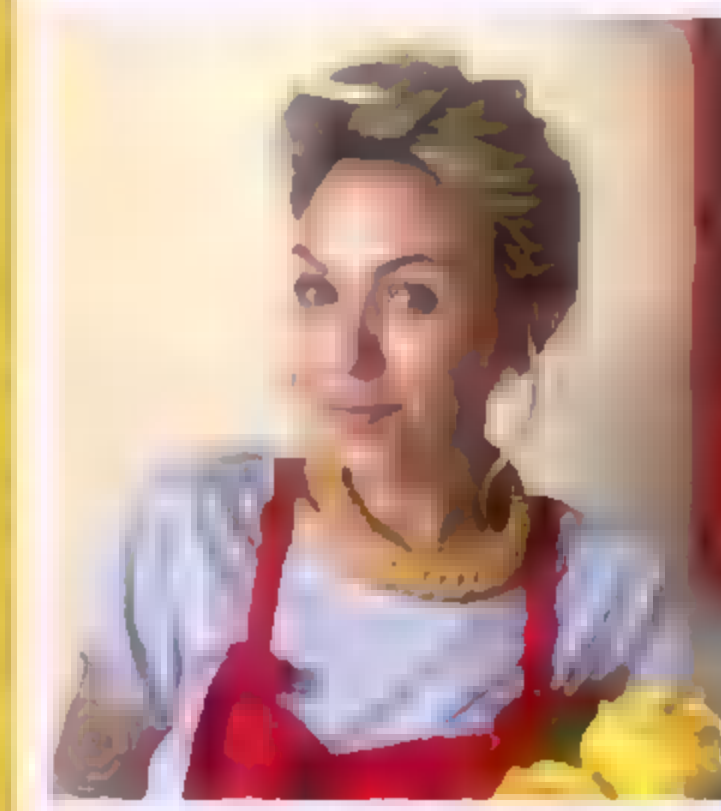
You can catch up with Michelle and take a look at all her hooky makes on Instagram – search @pixie.marie

Sam Hermes

"For this project, the yarn really did all the hard work. The colours just scream autumn fall, cosy nights and warm spiced drinks around the campfire... so my design of the chevron

bunting would be a great seasonal decoration replacement for all the summer pastels. I found adding some wooden or even glass beads really gave it that extra Moroccan warmth. I loved designing this bunting, and as always adore working with Scheepjes yarns."

Find Sam on Instagram @littlebudcreations





Clockwise from above: choosing contrasting shades for the tops means they stand out boldly against the stems; spots (a row of double crochet tightly curled) are optional, but a striking addition to the mushrooms and worth the extra effort; attach a short stem to the back of the leaves

MUSHROOM BUNTING

Bring the colourful autumn leaves into your home with Michelle Estrada's fun design.

■ Scheepjes River Washed (78% cotton, 22% acrylic, 50g/130m), 1 ball of each: Ural (977), Po (973), Avon (974), Nile (984), Narmada (980), Mississippi (986), Seine (987), Eisack (975), Mersey (979)

■ A 2.75mm (US C/2) hook

For yarn stockists contact Scheepjes www.scheepjes.com

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project

MEASUREMENTS

Mushroom measures 19x7.5cm (7½x3in)

Leaf measures 6.5x5cm (2½x2in)

NOTES

Make as many motifs as you like, alternating Mushrooms and Leaves. Block each motif before joining into Bunting.

MUSHROOMS

STEM

Using Ural, ch8.

Rows 1-9 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn. [8 sts]

Fasten off.

TOP

Using any colour except shades of Green, ch16.

Rows 1-3 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn. [16 sts]

Row 4 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to last 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [14 sts]

Rows 5-8 Repeat Rows 3-4. [10 sts]

Rows 9-11 As Row 4. [4 sts]

Fasten off.

SPOTS (OPTIONAL)

Using any colour other than colour used for Top, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 4dc into loop, ss to top of beg dc to join. [4 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Use tails to sew Top to Stem. Sew Spots on Top.

LEAF

Using any colour, ch6.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, 2dc in first ch, dc in next 4 ch, 2dc in last ch, turn. [8 sts]

Row 2 (WS) Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each st to final st, 2dc in final st, turn. [10 sts]

Rows 3-4 As Row 2. [14 sts]

Row 5 Ch1, 2dc in first st, dc in each st to final st, 2dc in final st, ch1, turn. [16 sts, 1 ch-1]

Row 6 Ch1, dc2tog ch-1 and first dc, dc in next 13 sts, dc2tog, turn. [15 sts]

Row 7 Ch1, dc2tog, dc in each st to final 2 sts, dc2tog, turn. [13 sts]

Rows 8-10 As Row 7. [7 sts]

Fasten off.

STALK

Using a contrasting colour to Leaf, ch17.

Row 1 Ch1, dc in first 5 ch, ss in next ch.

Fasten off.

Sew Leaf Stalk over Rows 5-6 of Leaf with the 5 dc sts positioned to right-hand side of rows.

TO FINISH

Using Seine, ch22, *ss into top right-hand corner of first Mushroom on WS, ch5, ss into opposite corner of Mushroom, ch22, ss on WS of Leaf, ch3, ss into same Leaf approx 3 sts from previous ss, ch22; rep from * across.

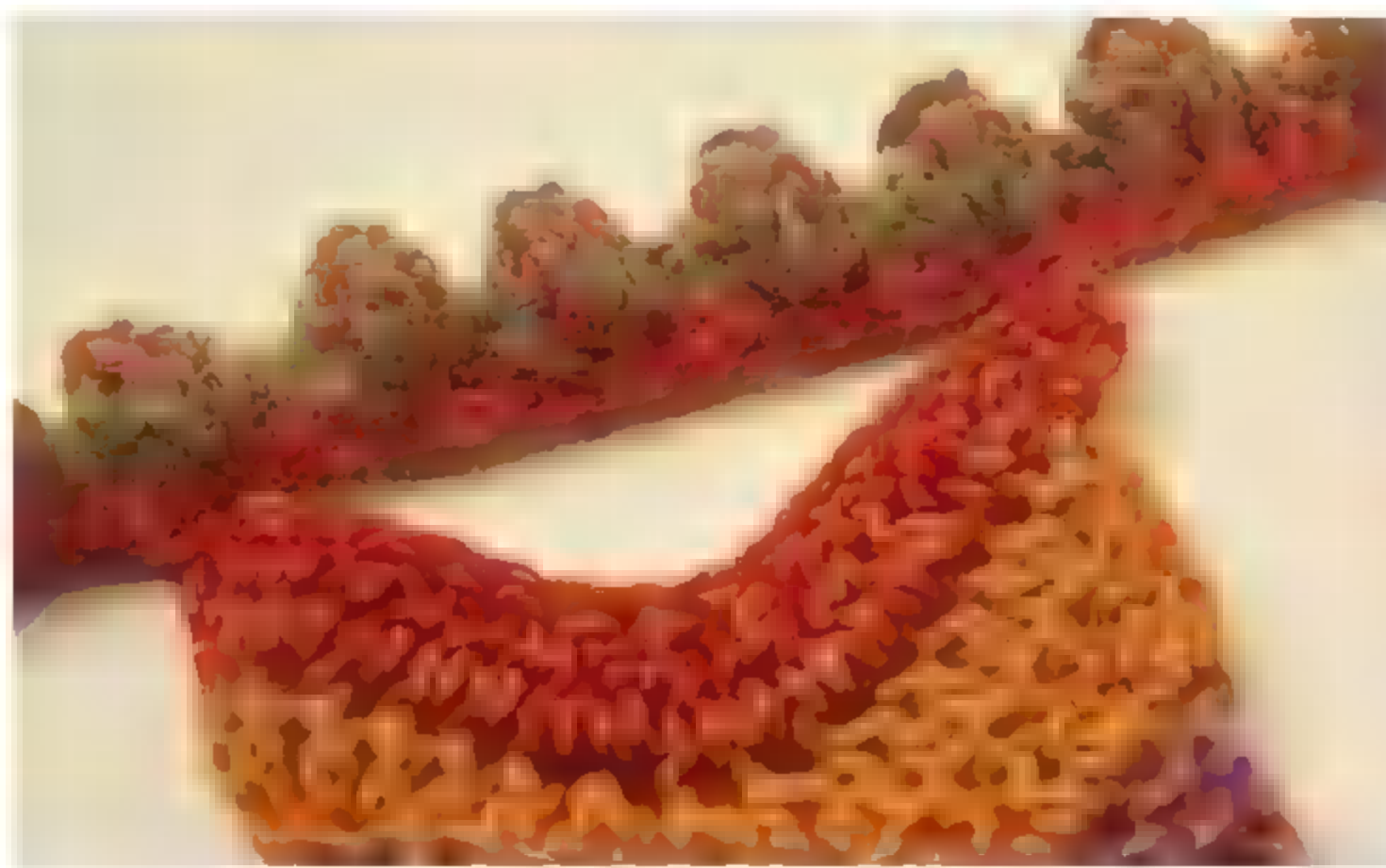
Fasten off and weave in all ends.

CHEVRON BUNTING

Spice up your decor with Sam Hermes' richly coloured flag bunting.

■ Scheepjes River Washed (78% cotton, 22% acrylic, 50g/130m), 1 ball of each:
Yarn A Eisack (975), Yarn B Mersey (979),
Yarn C Avon (974), Yarn D Po (973),
Yarn E Narmada (980), Yarn F Ural (977),
Yarn G Nile (984), Yarn H Mississippi (986),
Yarn I Seine (987)

■ A 4mm (US G/6) hook



Clockwise from top: the lanyard has been constructed as a sturdy, decorative strip to support the weight of the chevron flags; each flag is made of treble crochet stripes with points created by working tr2tog; spheres, beads and tassels finish each chevron flag with flair and elegance

- Stitch markers
- Toy stuffing
- 8 beads, 10mm

For yarn, see Mushroom Bunting

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project

MEASUREMENTS

Chevron Flag measures 7x9cm (2¾x3½in)

Bunting measures 105cm (41¼in) in length

ABBREVIATIONS

popcorn Work 5tr in same st, drop loop from hook, insert hook from front to back of first tr, place dropped loop back on hook and pull through st, ch1 to close

For a full list, see page 55

NOTES

Bunting is made up of Chevron Flags, Stuffed Spheres and Tassels which are made first and joined together. Next the Lanyard bunting is made joining the Flags as you go. Block each Flag before joining to Lanyard.

CHEVRONS

FLAG (MAKE 8)

Make 4 using Yarns A, B and C; and make 4 using Yarns D, E and F.

Using Yarn A or D, ch22.

Row 1 (RS) Tr into fourth ch from hook, tr in next 4 ch, (tr2tog) 4 times, tr in final 6 sts, turn. [16 sts]

Rows 2-3 (Work sts in bl only) Ch3 (counts as tr throughout), tr in st at base of beg ch-3, 2tr in next st, tr in next 2 sts, (tr2tog) 4 times, tr in next 2 sts, 2tr in final 2 sts, turn.

Change to Yarn B or E.

Rows 4-5 As Row 2.

Change to Yarn C or F.

Row 5 (WS) As Row 2.

Fasten off.

STUFFED SPHERE (MAKE 8)

Using Yarn G, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), 6dc into loop, ss to beg dc to join. [6 sts]

Round 2 (RS) Ch1, 2dc in each st around, ss to top of beg dc. [12 sts]

Round 3 Ch1, (2dc in next st, dc in next st) 6 times, ss to top of beg dc. [18 sts]

Rounds 4-5 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to top of beg dc.

Round 5 Ch1, (dc in next st, dc2tog) 6 times, ss to top of beg dc. [12 sts]

Fill with toy stuffing.

Round 7 Ch1, (dc2tog) 6 times, ss to beg dc. [6 sts]

Fasten off.

Thread tail through last 6 sts and pull tight to close final round.

TASSEL (MAKE 8)

Using Yarn H, cut 32 strands of yarn, 25cm long. Hold 30 strands together, fold in half and secure at the top with one of the extra strands. With the second extra strand tie firmly around Tassel, 1cm from top. Thread 1 bead on tails of the strand that secures the top; use this tail to sew Tassel to ■ Stuffed Sphere.

LANYARD

Alternate the colourways when joining Flags.

Row 1 (RS) Using Yarn H, ch5, dc in top-left corner of first Flag, *ch12, dc in top-right corner of same Flag, ch10, dc in top-left corner of next Flag; rep from * across until all Flags have been joined, ch5, turn.

Row 2 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn. [192 sts]

Fasten off and join Yarn I into first st.

Row 3 Ch1, dc in first 2 sts, (popcorn in next st, dc in next 2 sts) to last st, dc in last st, turn.

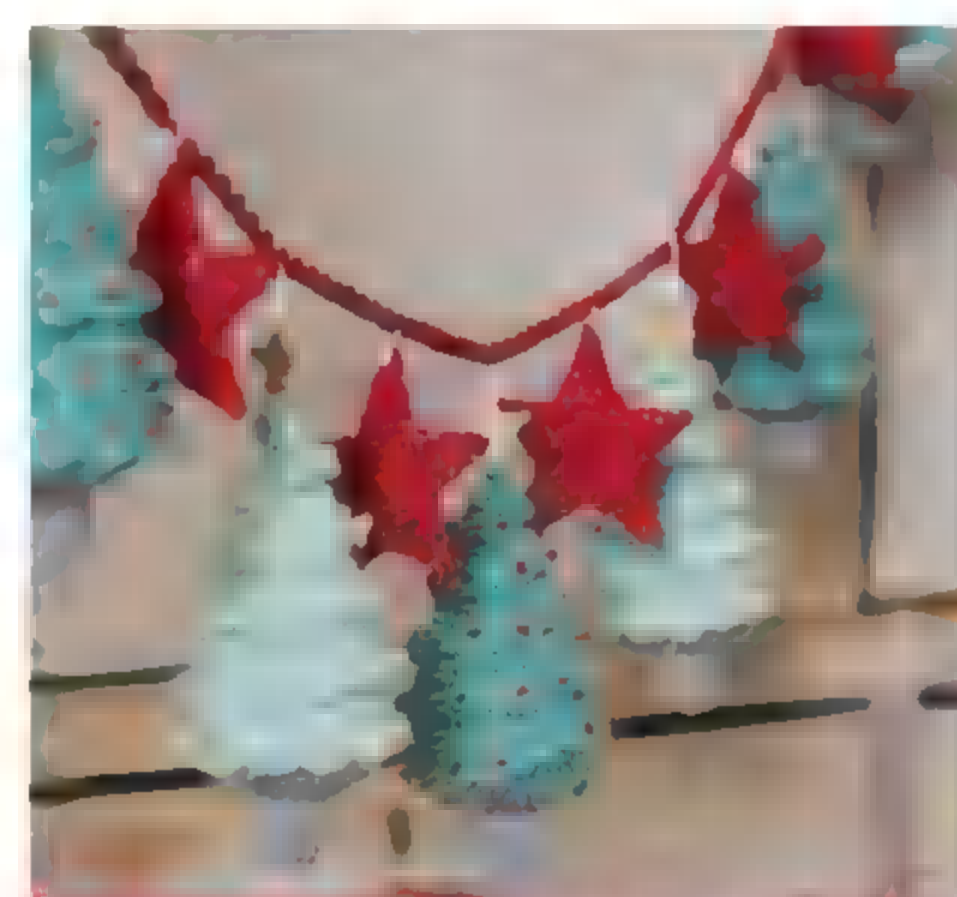
Row 4 Ch1, dc in each st across.

Fasten off.

TO FINISH

Using Yarn G, sew the Spheres with Tassels to bottom point of each Flag. Weave in rem ends.

EASY hook
bunting!



TRIM THE TREE STYLISH DECS



DEAR SANTA... UNIQUE JUMPERS



OH DEER! CUTE GIFTS FOR KIDS

[illegible]



BAUBLE BEAUTY

Forget duvet days – we can feel a few blanket days coming on with this cosy number by Rosina Plane



YOU WILL NEED

- Deramores Studio DK (100% acrylic, 100g/250m)
- 5 balls of Yarn A Pearl (70002)
- 3 balls of Yarn B Mustard (70058)
- 2 balls of each:
- Cranberry (70071)
- Peridot (70011)
- Indigo (70040)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A 3.5mm (US E/4) hook
- For yarn stockists contact
- Deramores 01733 777345
- www.deramores.com

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Blanket measures approx
104x123cm (41x48½in)

ABBREVIATIONS

mtr (mosaic tr) Work standard tr st in skipped st 2 rows below, work the mtr in front of the ch-sps worked in the previous 2 rows

standing htr Place slip knot on hook, yrh, insert hook into st specified, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through all loops on hook

For a full list, see page 58

This festive blanket is relaxing to hook up with its simple, repeating bauble pattern... and, once completed, uber relaxing to snuggle up under with a box of choccies and a Christmas movie or two!

NOTES

Blanket is worked in rows using the mosaic method and a border is added at the end.

MOSAIC CHART NOTES

Refer to the Chart on page 59 for all colourwork. Each small square represents 1 dc st and each rectangle represents 1 tr st. Read all RS rows from right to left and WS rows from left to right.

Change colour every 2 rows; when a second colour appears in a row skip those sts and ch the number of skipped sts +1. On the next row in a new colour work a tr st into the skipped sts leaving the ch-sps on the WS.

Yarn C and Yarn D will change in each repeat; refer to pattern for colours used over each repeat. Yarn A and Yarn B represent Pearl and Mustard throughout.

Rows 3-8 of the Chart have been written out to guide you.

BLANKET

Using a 4mm hook and Yarn B, ch160.

Row 1 (RS) Dc in second ch from hook and in each ch to end, turn. [159 sts]

Row 2 (WS) Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout) dc in each st across, turn. Change to Yarn A.

Row 3 Ch1, dc in next 2 sts, *ch2, skip 1 st, dc in next 21 sts; rep from * across to final 2 sts, dc in final 2 sts, turn. [8 ch-2 sps, 151 dc]

Row 4 Ch1, *dc in each st to next ch-sp, ch2, skip ch-sp; rep from * across, turn.

Change to Yarn B.

Row 5 Ch1, dc in first st, ch2 skip next st, mtr in next skipped st, ch3, skip 2 sts, dc in next 5 sts, *(ch4, skip 3 sts, dc in next st) twice, dc in next 4 sts, ch3, skip 2 sts, mtr, ch3, skip 2 sts, dc in next 5 sts; rep from * across to final 5 sts, ch3, skip 2 sts, mtr in next skipped st, ch2, skip 1 st, dc in final st, turn. [30 ch-sps, 8 mtr, 79 dc]

Row 6 Ch1, dc in first st, ch2, skip ch-sp, dc in next st, ch3, skip ch-sp, dc in next 5 sts, *(ch4, skip ch-sp dc in next st) twice, dc in next 4 sts, (ch3, skip ch-sp, dc in next st) twice, dc in next 4 sts; rep from * across to final ch-3 sp, ch3, skip ch-sp, dc in next st, ch2, skip ch-sp dc in final st, turn. [30 ch-sps, 87 dc]

Change to Yarn A.

Row 7 Ch1, dc in first st, mtr, dc in next st, mtr in next 2 sts, *dc in next 5 sts, mtr in next 3 sts, ch2, skip 1 st, mtr in next 3 sts, dc in next 5 sts, mtr in next 2 sts, dc in next st, mtr in next 2 sts; rep from * across to final 2 sts, ch2, skip 1 st, dc in final st, turn. [80 dc, 72 mtr, 7 ch-sps]

Row 8 Ch1, *dc in each st across to next ch-sp,



The blanket is worked using the mosaic crochet technique, changing colour every two rows

ch2, skip ch-sp; rep from * across, turn.

[7 ch-sps, 152 dc]

Rows 9-70 Continue in pattern referring to the Chart on page 59, using Cranberry for Yarn C and Peridot for Yarn D.

Rows 71-134 As Rows 7-70 on Chart, using Indigo for Yarn C and Cranberry for Yarn D.

Rows 135-198 As Rows 7-70 on Chart, using Peridot for Yarn C and Indigo for Yarn D.

Rows 198-228 As Rows 7-36 on Chart, using Cranberry for Yarn C.

Change to Yarn B.

Row 229 Ch1, dc in each st across and mtr in each skipped st across, turn. [159 sts]

Row 230 Ch1, dc in each st across, turn.

Do not fasten off.

BORDER

The Border is worked in the round, with RS facing throughout.

Change to a 3.5mm hook.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st), skip first st, htr in each st across, ch3, 182tr evenly down left side of Blanket (approx 4 tr for every 5 rows of the pattern), ch3, skip first st across bottom of Blanket, htr in each st across to next corner, ch3, 182tr evenly up right side of Blanket, ch3, ss to top of beg htr to join. [680 sts]

Round 2 Ch2 (counts as htr throughout), *htr in each st to ch-3 corner sp, (2htr, ch3, 2htr) in ch-sp; rep from * another 3 times, ss to top of beg ch-2. [696 sts]

Round 3 Ch2, htr in next st, ch3, skip 2 sts, *(htr in next 2 sts, ch3, skip 2 sts) across to next ch-3 sp, (2htr, ch2, 2htr) in ch-sp, ch3, skip 2 sts; rep from * another 3 times, ch3, ss to top of beg ch-2.

Fasten off Yarn B.

Join Yarn A into any corner sp with a standing htr.

Round 4 (Htr, ch2, 2htr) in same sp, *ch3, skip 2 sts, (mtr in next 2 skipped sts, ch3, skip 2 sts) across to next ch-2 corner sp, (2htr, ch2, 2htr) in ch-2 sp; rep from * another 3 times, omitting last corner group, ss to top of beg htr. [368 sts]

Fasten off Yarn A.

Join Yarn B into any corner sp with a standing htr.

BAUBLES BLANKET

Round 5 (Ch2, htr) in same sp, *htr in next 2 sts, (mtr in next 2 skipped sts, htr in next 2 sts) to next corner ch-2 sp, (htr, ch2, htr) in ch-2 sp; rep from * another 3 times omitting last corner group, ss to beg htr. [736 sts]

Round 6 Ch2, *(htr, ch2, htr) in ch-2 sp, htr, ch3, skip 2 sts, (2htr, ch3, skip 2 sts) to last st before next ch-2 corner sp, htr in next st; rep from * another 3 times omitting final htr and corner group, ss to top of beg ch-2. [376 sts]

Fasten off Yarn B.

Join Peridot into any corner sp with a standing htr.

Round 7 As Round 4. [384 sts]

Fasten off Peridot.

Join Yarn B into any corner sp with a standing htr.

Rounds 8-9 As Rounds 5-6. [392 sts]

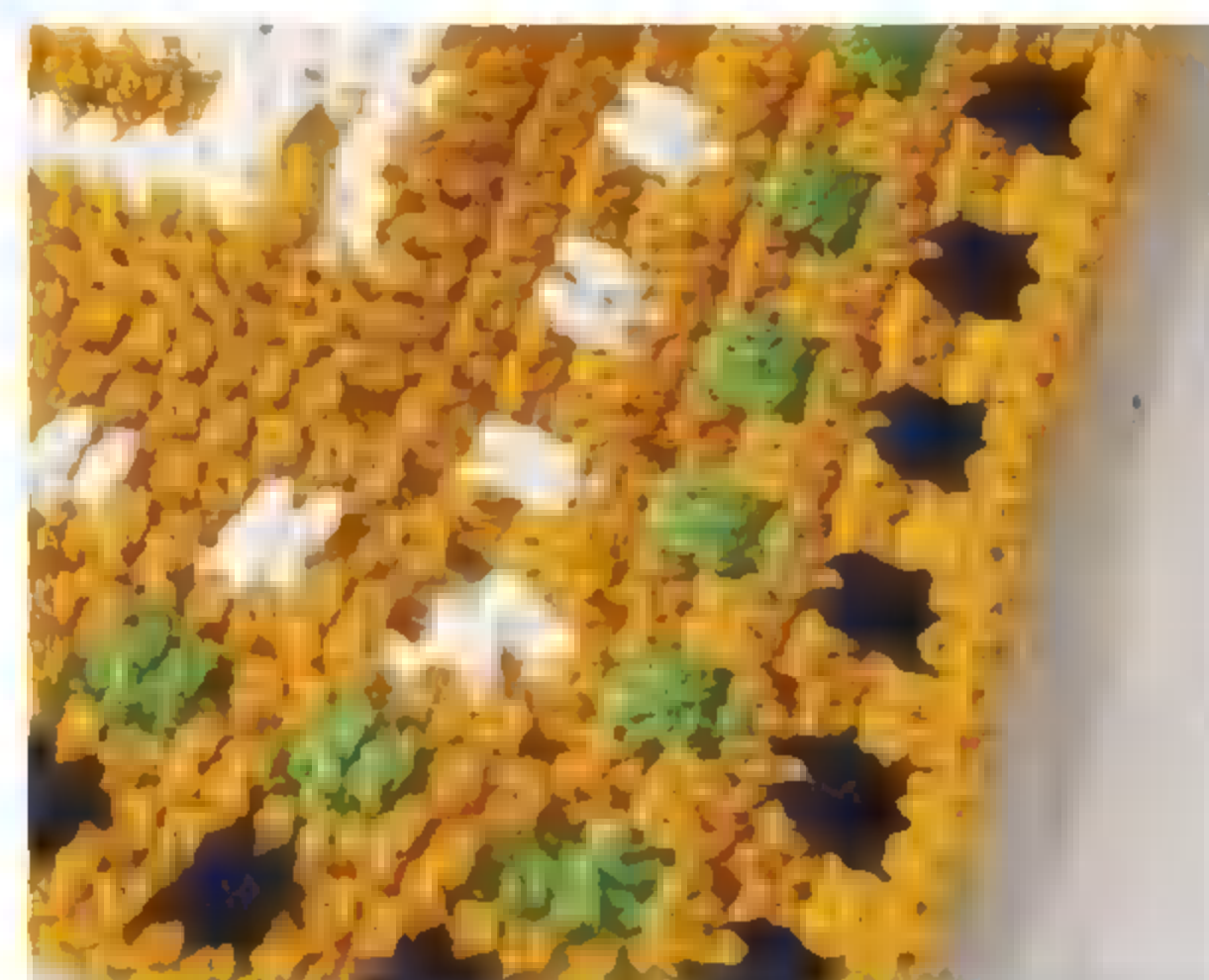
Join Indigo into any corner sp with a standing htr.

Round 10 As Round 4. [400 sts]

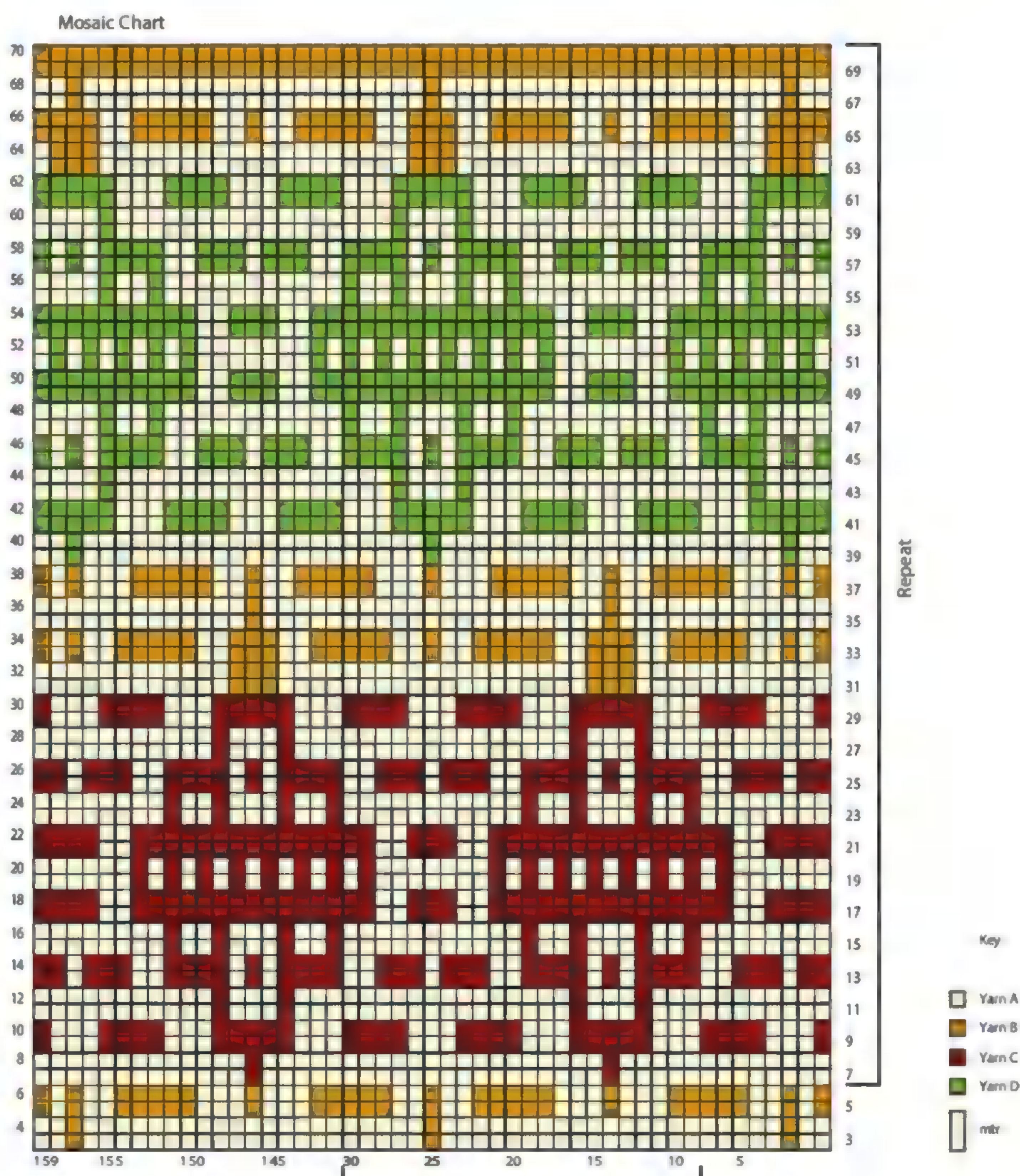
Join Mustard into any corner sp with a standing htr.

Round 11 2htr in same sp, *htr in next 2 sts, (mtr, htr in next 2 sts) across to next corner, 3htr in ch-2 corner sp; rep from * around, ss to top of beg htr.

Fasten off and weave in all ends.



The main section of the blanket is worked in rows, and the border is worked in the round



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Share bears

These dinky bears are the perfect, grabbable size for your little cub. By Samantha Osmond



YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Baby Cotton Soft DK (50% cotton, 50% acrylic, 50g, 125m)
1 ball per bear of:
Mint (031)
Light Purple (062)
Pastel Pink (041)
Powder (060)
Saffron (059)
Turquoise (056)
 - Small amount of contrasting yarn for muzzle
 - A 2.5mm (US B/1 or C/2) hook
 - Stitch markers
 - 2 safety eyes per bear, 7.5mm in diameter
 - Polyester toy stuffing
- For yarn stockists contact
Rico www.rico-design.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Squish Bear measures 10cm (4in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 90

Have you met our latest squeeze? He's short, light and handsome, and while he loves a cuddle he definitely won't hog your little one's cot. What a dreamboat! He's mainly a simple make but the gusset upgrades him to tricky, so pay close attention on Round 6.

NOTES

Pattern is worked in the amigurumi method. Work sts continuously in a spiral without closing off each round with a slip stitch. It may help to use a stitch marker in the first st of each round, moving it up as you work. Each Bear is made using one colour. A second, contrasting colour is used to sew the facial features at the end.

SQUISH BEAR

BODY

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Using any colour, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout) 6dc into loop. [6 sts]

Round 2 2dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Round 3 (Dc in next 3 sts, 2dc in next st) 3 times. [15 sts]

Rounds 4-5 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off first Leg and weave in ends. Do not fasten off the second Leg.

TORSO AND HEAD

Continuing from second Leg:

Round 6 Ch3 (counts as ch-3 sp between Legs), dc in each st around first Leg, dc in next 3 ch of ch-3 sp, dc in each st around second Leg, 3dc into opposite side of ch-3 sp. [36 sts]

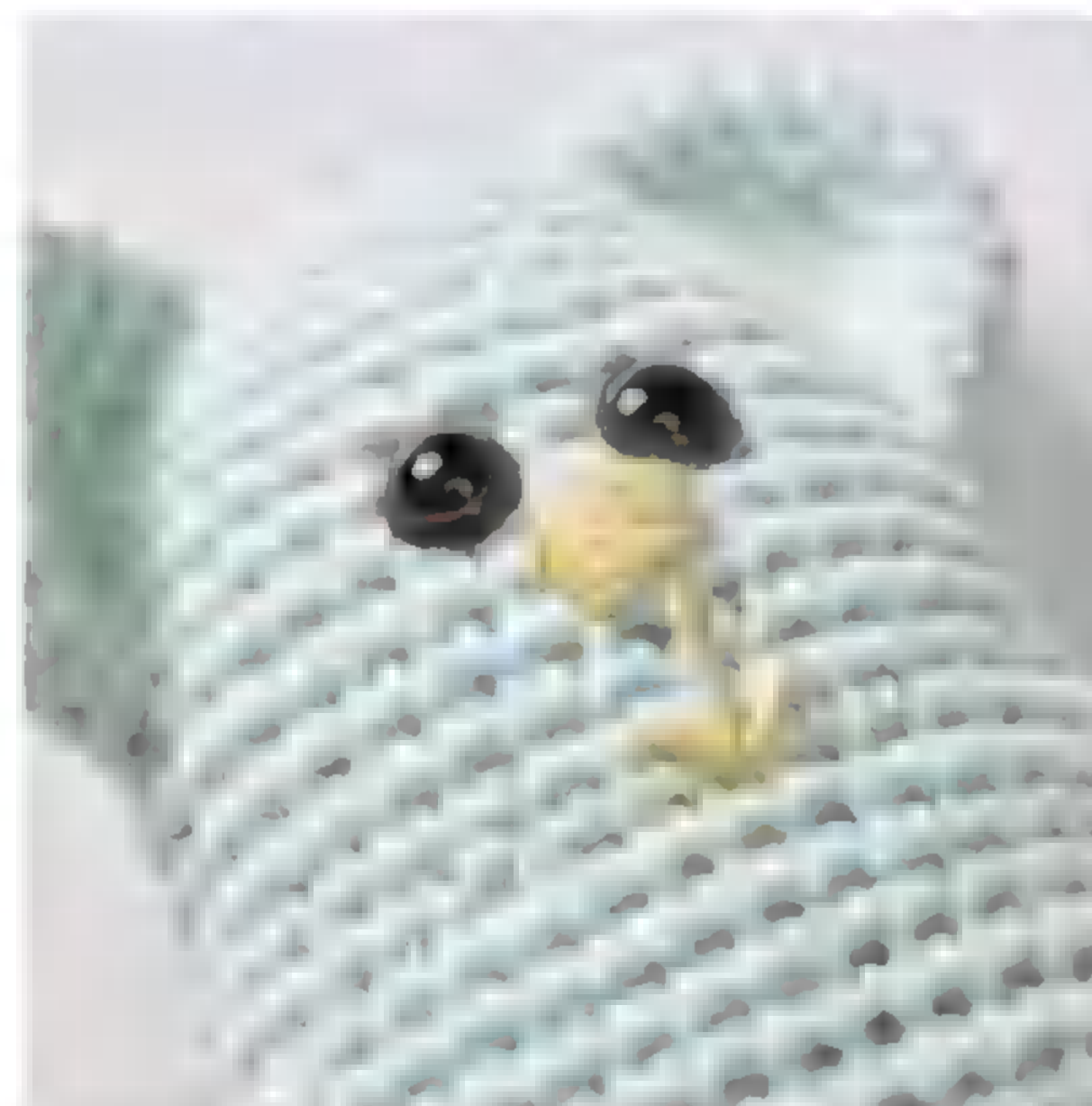
Rounds 7-18 Dc in each st around.

Round 19 (Dc in next 7 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [32 sts]

Rounds 20-24 Dc in each st around.

Round 25 (Dc in next 6 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [28 sts]

Rounds 26-27 Dc in each st around.



If you're making bears for small children, embroider eyes instead of using safety eyes

Round 28 (Dc in next 5 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [24 sts]

Round 29 (Dc in next 4 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [20 sts]

Add safety eyes between Rounds 23-24. Stuff the Body, continuing to stuff as you go.

Round 30 (Dc in next 3 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [16 sts]

Round 31 (Dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 4 times. [12 sts]

Round 32 (Dc in next st, dc2tog) 4 times. [8 sts]
Fasten off and use end to close final round.

ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using same colour as Body, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-2 As Rounds 1-2 of Legs. [12 sts]

Rounds 3-10 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail to sew Arms to the Body between Rounds 16-17.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using same colour as Body, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-2 As Rounds 1-2 of Legs. [12 sts]

Round 3 (Dc in next st, 2dc in next st) 6 times. [18 sts]

Rounds 4-6 Dc in each st around.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Flatten the last round of the Ear and sew to the side of the Bear's head, over Rounds 23-30. You can use the image as a guide.

TAIL

Using same colour as Body, make a magic loop.

Rounds 1-2 As Rounds 1-2 of Legs. [12 sts]

Rounds 3-4 Dc in each st around. [12 sts]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Sew the Tail to the back of the Bear over Rounds 9-12.

TO FINISH

Using a small amount of contrasting yarn, stitch a nose and mouth onto Bear's face. Refer to the image for guidance.



The bear's tail is worked in the round in double crochet

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HOT TO TROT

Get ready for autumn with these eye-catching legwarmers, designed by Paula Green



YOU WILL NEED

- West Yorkshire Spinners Colourlab DK (100% wool 100g/225m) 1 ball of each:
 - Yarn A Stormy Grey (373)
 - Yarn B Citrus Yellow (229)
 - Yarn C Aqua Green (705)
 - A 4mm (US G/6) hook
 - A 5mm (US H/8) hook
 - 2 buttons, 20mm
- For yarn stockists contact
West Yorkshire Spinners
01535 664500
www.wyspinners.com

TENSION

17 sts over 13 rows to measure 10x10 (4x4in) over half treble ribbing using a 4mm hook or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Legwarmers measure 40cm (16in) in length and 28cm (11in) in circumference around rib

ABBREVIATIONS

Fhtr (Foundation half treble) Ch3 (counts as first st), *yrh, insert hook into last ch from hook, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and pull through one loop (ch-1 made), complete as htr; rep from * inserting hook into ch-1 at base of prev st
FPhtr As htr, inserting hook from front to back to front around post of st indicated
BPhtr As htr, inserting hook from back to front to back around post of st indicated

For a full list, see page 44

Bridge the gap between summer shoes and winter boots with a warm and stylish pair of legwarmers. This set makes an ideal quick-hook project, plus the simple pattern is easy to extend for calf-high heating. Not for you? They make a boot-ylicious stocking filler for teens and chilly friends, too.

NOTES

Legwarmers are worked from the top down. The Upper Ribbing is worked in rows before being joined into a round with an overlap for the buttonhole.

Carry unused colours up the WS ready to pick up again. Change colour on the final ss of a round before colour change is indicated. Ch-sps are not included in st counts unless otherwise stated.

LEGWARMERS (MAKE 2)

UPPER RIBBING

Using a 4mm hook and Stormy Grey, Fhtr 52.

Row 1 (WS) Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout) htr in next 2 sts, ch1, skip 1 st (buttonhole made), htr in next st, (FPhtr next st, BPhtr next st) 24 times, turn. [51 sts, 1 ch-1 sp]

Row 2 (RS) Ch1, (FPhtr next st, BPhtr next st) 24 times, dc in next 4 sts, turn.

Row 3 Ch1, htr in first 4 sts, (FPhtr, BPhtr) 24 times, turn.

Row 4 As Row 2.

Row 5 As Row 3.

Change to 5mm hook.

Fold short ends together so the first 4 sts of last row sit on top of last 4 sts of row. Remove loop from hook, insert hook through fourth st of previous row, place loop back on hook and pull through st. Work first 4 sts of next round through sts at beg and end of last row to join into a loop.

Round 6 (RS) Ch1, dc first 4 sts tog with last 4 to join, dc in next 44 sts, ss to beg dc, turn. [48 sts] Do not fasten off.

LEG

Round 7 (WS) Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc, turn [48 sts]

Change to Citrus Yellow.

Round 8 (RS) Ch1, (htr in next st, ch1, skip 1 st) 24 times, ss top beg htr, turn. [24 sts]

Rounds 9-13 Ch1, (htr in skipped st 2 rows below, ch1, skip 1 st) 24 times, ss to top beg htr, turn.

Change to Stormy Grey.

Round 14 Ch1, (htr in skipped st 2 rows below, dc in next st) 24 times, ss to top of beg htr, turn. [48 sts]

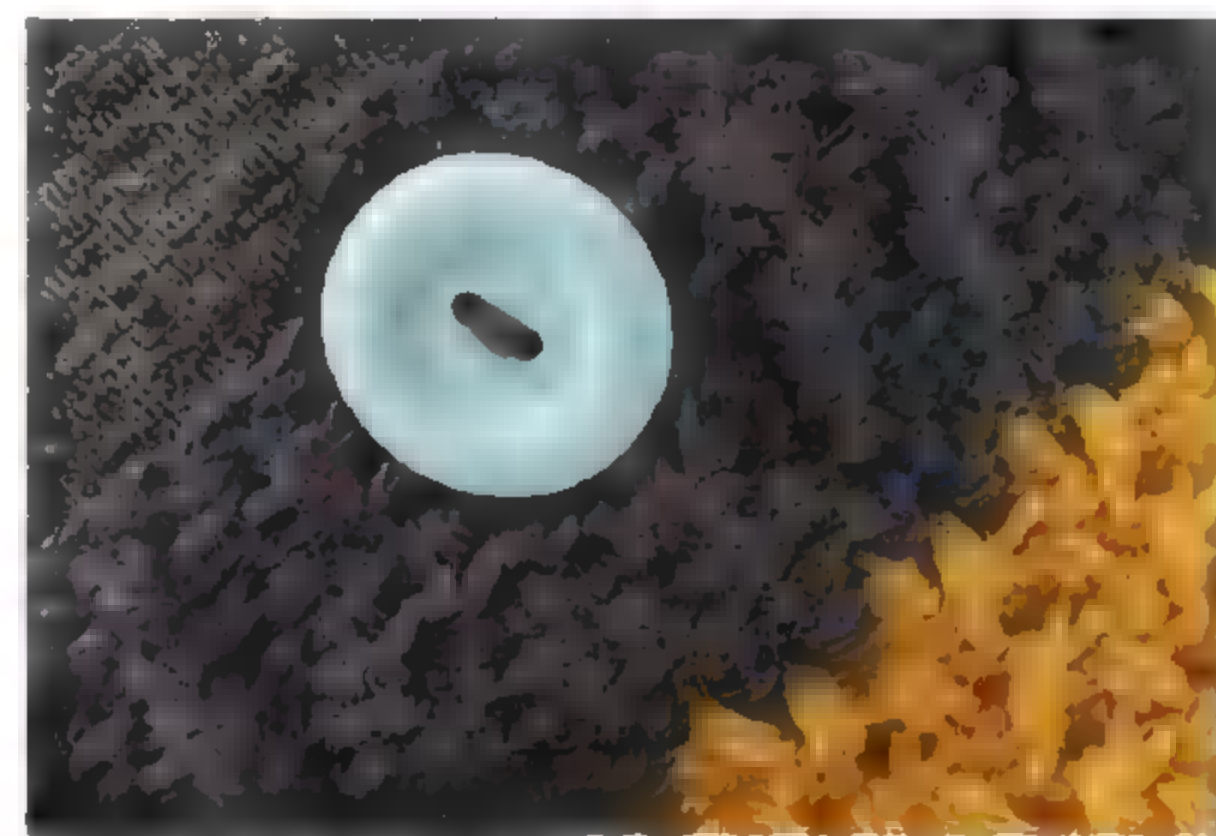
Round 15 Ch1, (htr in next tr, ch1, skip next dc) around, ss to top of beg htr, turn. [24 sts]

Change to Aqua Green.

Rounds 16-21 As Round 9.

Change to Stormy Grey.

Repeat Rounds 14-21 another 6 times



The legwarmers are worked top down, and the buttonhole is worked during the first row

alternating Citrus Yellow and Aqua Green for each repeat in Rounds 16-21.

LOWER RIBBING

Using a 5mm hook and Stormy Grey, join Grey into any st.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, (dc in htr, htr in next skipped st from previous round) 24 times, ss to top beg dc, turn. [48 sts]

Round 2 (WS) Ch1, (dc in next 2 sts, dc2tog) 12 times, ss to top beg dc, turn. [36 sts]

Change to a 4mm hook.

Round 3 Ch1, htr in each st around, ss to top of beg htr, turn.

Round 4 Ch1, (FPhtr next st, BPhtr next st) 18 times, ss to top beg htr, turn.

Rounds 5-7 As Round 4.

Fasten off and weave in all ends.

TO FINISH

Sew button in line with the buttonhole and block to measurements stated.



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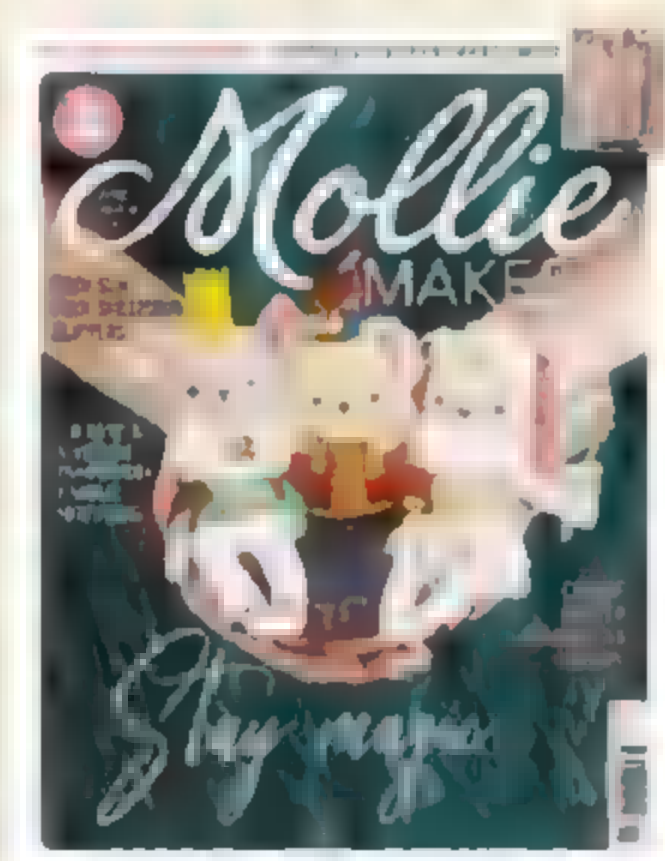


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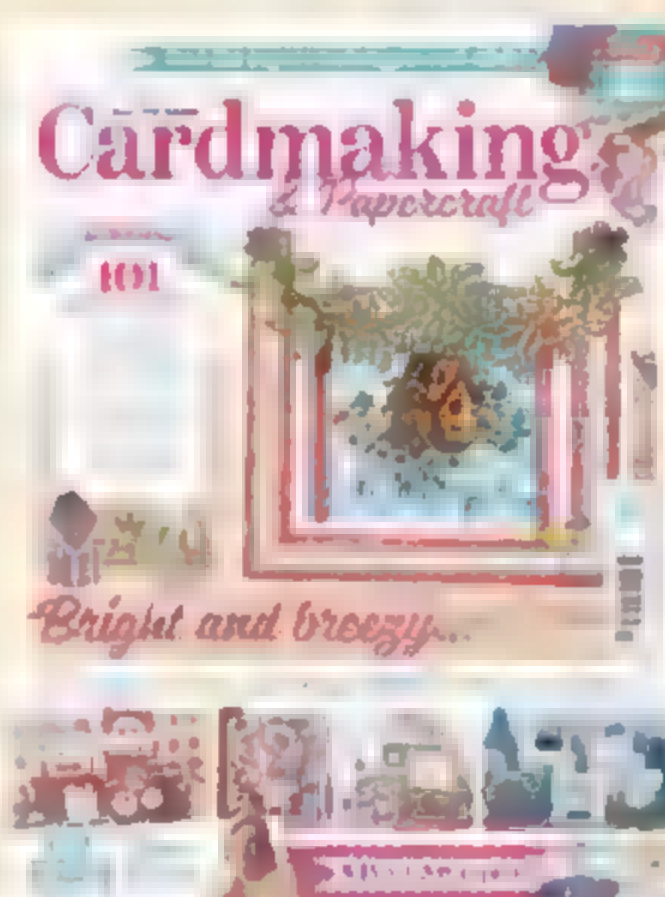
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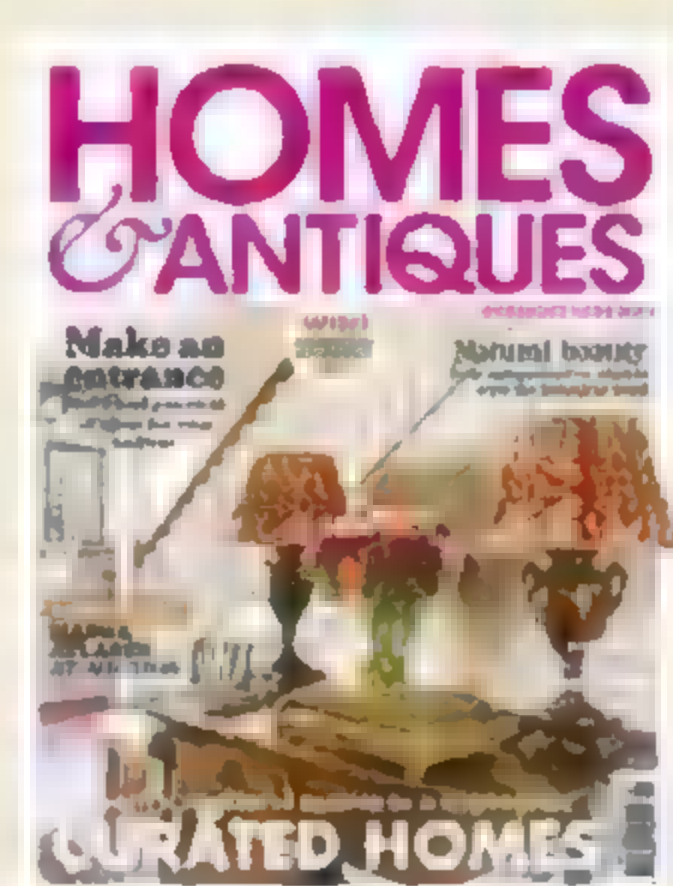
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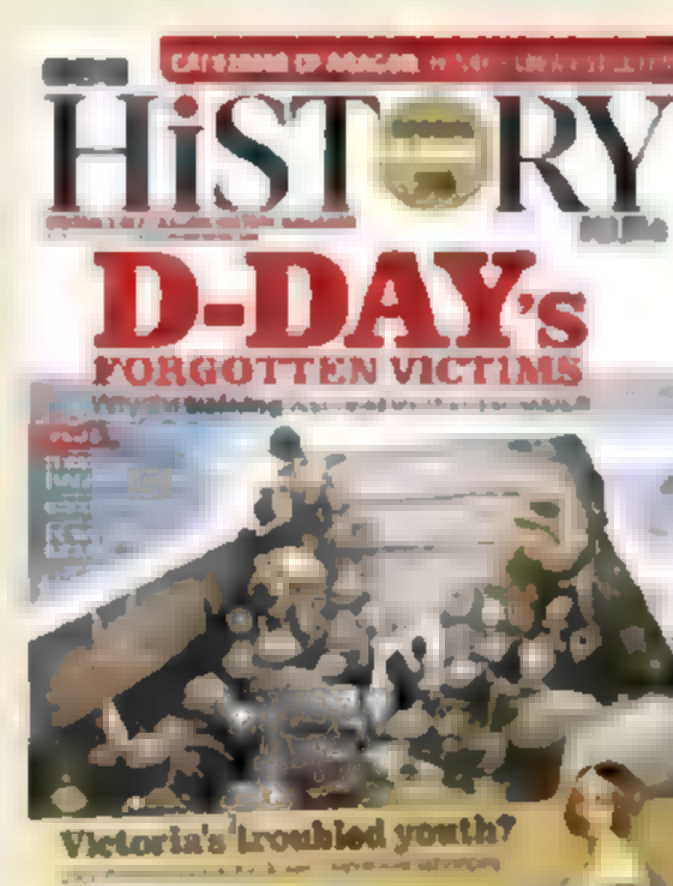
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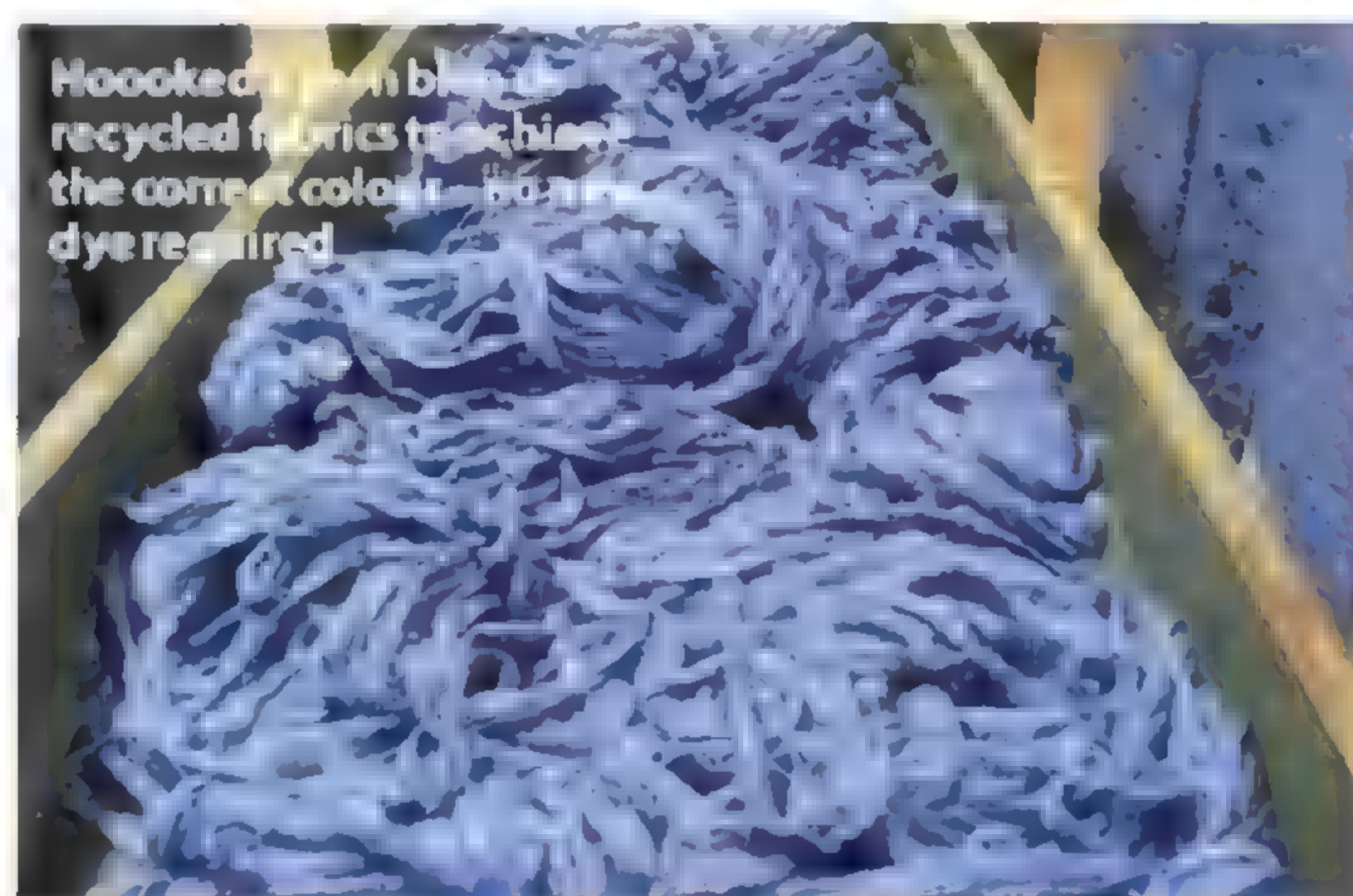
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Everything you need to know about recycled yarns





Textile waste is on the rise. Without finding another purpose, large amounts of textiles are automatically piled onto landfills, adding to pollution. As resources become more scarce, the need to use recycled materials is more important than ever. "Recently it was revealed that there has been an 811% increase in textile waste since 1960," says a representative from The Sustainable Fashion Collective (www.the-sustainable-fashion-collective.com), an expert holistic advice platform that helps the textile industry to produce, market and sell more responsibly. "Whether it's a fast-produced mechanical textile or a naturally-dyed hand-woven textile, they can all still go to landfill, making it so that the value is lost forever."

This is where recycled yarn and cotton comes into play for us crafters. But, how exactly is this made and what is available to us? Along with the help of industry experts, designers and crafters, we take an in-depth look at recycled yarns.

HOW EXACTLY ARE RECYCLED YARNS CREATED?

There are more brands out there offering recycled yarns than you might think. Wool &

The Gang's New Wave yarn is made from plastic drinking bottles which are recovered from recycling bins in Italy. Divided by type, they are then cleaned, cut and put through a manufacturing process to make into a spinnable fibre.

"Our supplier then combines these recycled polyester fibres with cotton to make the super-soft, squishy yarn," says Wool & The Gang's Anna Veglio-White. "We also discovered that recycled polyester consumes much less energy during the production process than new polyester. On average it uses 94% less water, 60% less energy, and 32% less carbon dioxide production – win!" When asked what inspired their New Wave yarn, W&TG cited that *Blue Planet* was a big influence. "It was a real wake up call to the damage that plastic is doing to our oceans," explains Anna.

Equally, Dutch yarn company Hooooked have created their Eco Barbante cotton from

reused textiles. "Textile waste is gathered and sorted by colour, then shredded. This is then mixed to get the right Hooooked colours. No dyes are used to make these," explains Vera Maia, Ecommerce & Digital Marketing Consultant at Hooooked. Once this is done,

the shredded material is spun into a new thread. As this process requires solely recycled materials, it doesn't contribute to the depletion of raw material at all.

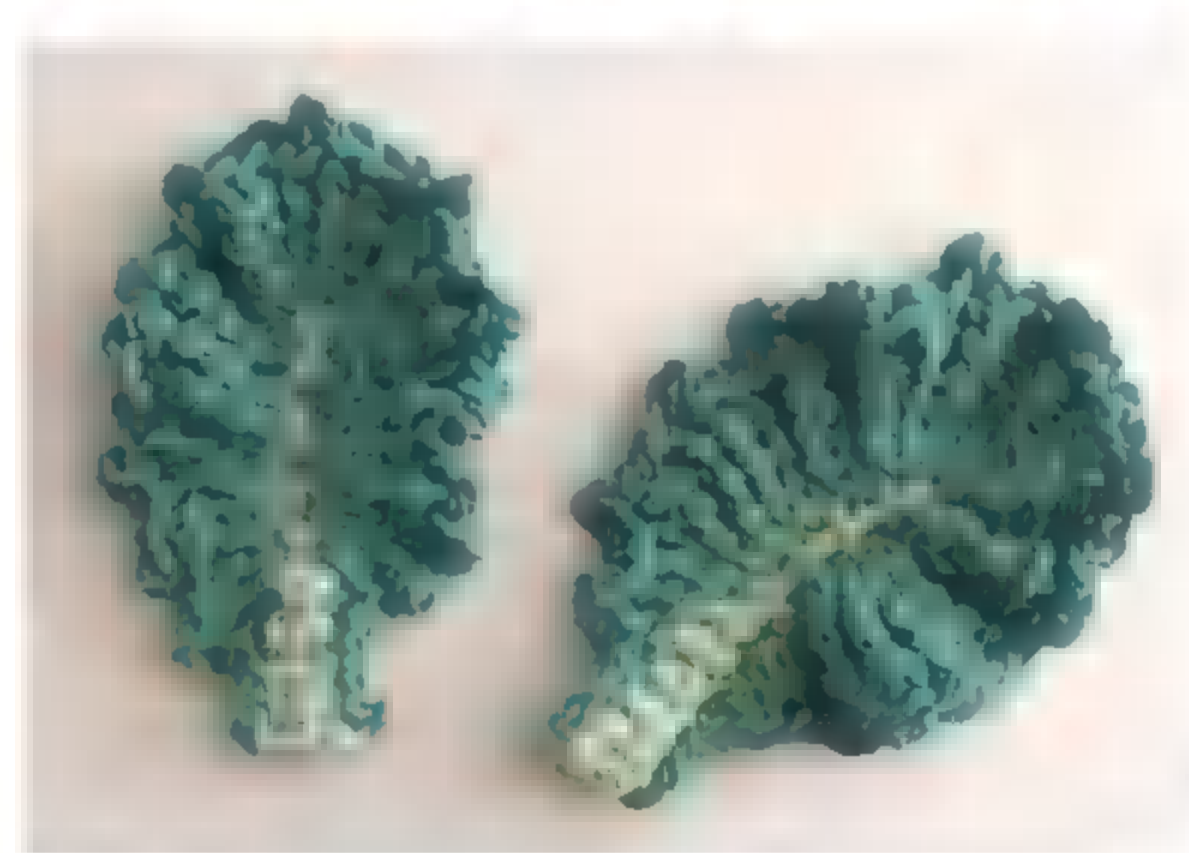
As producers of 100% recycled textiles, Pure Waste explain their

eco-friendly production process: "First the raw material is collected – cutting clips from CMT factories and yarn waste from spinning/weaving mills. We then sort it by quality and colour, and each of these is mechanically opened back into fibres. We focus on keeping the fibre length as long as possible, for the finest yarn quality – that's why opened cotton waste is mixed with recycled polyester. The mixed recycled fibres are spun

"You can find some fabulous recycled yarn – it's a real contender now"



Below: each ball of New Wave yarn contains three plastic bottles! Bottom: Becky Skuse outlines her green credentials with a kale leaf design



into yarns. This part of the process is the same as with spinning fresh fibres. Then the yarns are knitted or woven depending on the final use of the fabric."

Producing recycled yarn is a highly time-intensive process, as some systems that are needed to produce them on a commercial scale aren't yet in place. "They're labour intensive, requiring acquisition, sorting, breaking up or cutting, and then reproduction," explain The Sustainable Fashion Collective. However, the benefits to the environment are huge – even in ways you may not have considered. Recycling waste instead of farming virgin cotton saves a whole lot of fresh water. "Farming 1kg cotton requires as much as 11,000 litres of water," say Pure Waste. "So we can state that each of our T-shirts saves 2,700 litres of fresh water."

WHAT IS IT LIKE COMPARED TO 'VIRGIN' YARN?

The environmental part of using recycled products is hugely important, but we still want a yarn that performs well for our crocheting, and is accessible in terms of price point, performance and availability.

"Recycled yarn doesn't need to be more expensive than virgin yarn," says Vera from

Hooooked. "One of the reasons is that because of the selection of raw materials, the yarn doesn't need to be dyed again. In terms of characteristics, there's not a lot of difference. It's absorbent and soft on the skin."

It was also incredibly important for Wool & The Gang that their New Wave yarn be made sustainably, but still perform well for their customers. "The recycled plastic interior means the yarn has a fantastic bounce, which is very different to your usual cotton yarns. We've used it across a range of hook sizes to create really structured work on smaller hooks and light, spongy fabric on bigger hooks," Anna explains.

Becky Skuse, an avid crafter from Bristol (Instagram @makemedobec), tries to make eco-friendly choices when it comes to crafting. "Cotton is my favourite fibre to work with, but I'm well aware of the huge drain on resources that's involved in making it," says Becky. "I've used recycled cotton yarn numerous times and it's great. I couldn't tell any difference between that and new cotton yarn. Both have a fairly dry handle, but recycled yarns tend to have a rustic look and feel that's brilliant for loads of projects."

Designer Hannah Cross (www.hanjancrochet.com) also feels passionately

about using recycled yarn for her projects. "It's so important for us to use sustainable materials and recycle in every part of our life – and crafting is no different," she explains. "I think a few years ago, most recycled yarn felt like a step down from non-recycled yarn – but this absolutely isn't the case anymore. You can find some fabulous recycled yarns that create beautiful drape and bounce. It's a real contender in the market now."

OFFERING SUPPORT

There are steps we can take to boost sustainability in crafting: "The first would be to buy better quality materials and lobby brands to produce better quality. This means when the garment goes for sorting, it can be sorted into higher grade recycling," advise The Sustainable Fashion Collective.

Even little changes at home can make a difference, as Becky suggests: "As it's not always possible to find planet-friendly materials to meet specific project requirements, I try to make up for it in other ways, like avoiding plastic packaging, plastic glues, and single-use novelties. I can't stand waste; I like to make sure that everything has fulfilled its crafty destiny!"

Written by Colette Earley

CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN Gift Guide

Treat someone special (or perhaps yourself!) to a perfect present this year

HANDMADE BY TILLY

Through my love of crochet, and the lack of unique crochet tools, Handmade By Tilly was born! Custom hook and stitch marker sets tailored to your taste. Perfect secret Santa or stocking filler gifts.

[instagram.com/tilly_wood_](https://www.instagram.com/tilly_wood_)
[etsy.com/uk/shop/handmadetilly](https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/handmadetilly)



OLIVE'S TOY BOX

Handmade gifts to treasure forever. Olive's Toy Box offers a wide range of patterns for baby comforters (including Love Crafts pattern of the month - Sleepy Sheep) and other adorable toys.

[facebook.com/Olivestoybox](https://www.facebook.com/Olivestoybox)
[numonday.com/shop/olives-toy-box/](https://www.numonday.com/shop/olives-toy-box/)



NIMZ TREASURES

Where you can find the perfect crochet gift...

Hot-water bottle covers, scarves, patterns, bespoke blankets and much more.

nimztreasures@icloud.com
[etsy.com/uk/shop/NimzTreasures](https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/NimzTreasures)



MRS LAMB

Mrs Lamb specialises in fun project bags, t-shirts, tools and gifts to make you smile. We sell bags to suit any project and a wide range of yarn accessories. Get 25% off with code SCGIFTGUIDE.

[instagram.com/mrs.lamb.uk](https://www.instagram.com/mrs.lamb.uk)
[mrs-lamb.com](https://www.mrs-lamb.com)



COLORFUL SOUL BABY

Handmade toys and baby accessories made from high quality materials and safe for children. These crocheted animals are perfect as a unique gift for any occasion.

[instagram.com/colorfulsoulbaby](https://www.instagram.com/colorfulsoulbaby)
[etsy.com/uk/shop/colorfulsoulbaby](https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/colorfulsoulbaby)



ELLIE'S CRAFT BOUTIQUE

The home of beautifully designed, hand-crocheted, custom toys and an exclusive, original collection of amigurumi patterns, from our ever popular unicorn to the festive elf and reindeer.

[etsy.com/uk/shop/elliescraftboutique](https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/elliescraftboutique)



YARN FOR THE SOUL

Yarn for the Soul are known for their attention to detail and outstanding quality. Take a look at the selection of indie dyed yarn, buttons and shawl pins. You'll find something for the fibre lover in your life – or even treat yourself.

yarnforthesouluk@gmail.com
[yarnforthesoul.co.uk](https://www.yarnforthesoul.co.uk)



CROCHET SOCIETE

Hi, my name is Luz Higdon! My passion for crochet spans 25 years and inspires me to design unique patterns that spur creativity with the best yarns ensuring distinctive fabrics "with love in every stitch".

[ravelry.com/people/CrochetSociete](https://www.ravelry.com/people/CrochetSociete)
smokymnchick09@gmail.com



Crochet Societe

New Season Yarns

Six more superstar yarns that you'll love hooking up!

LACE STAR MOTIF

Ch8, ss in first ch to make a ring.

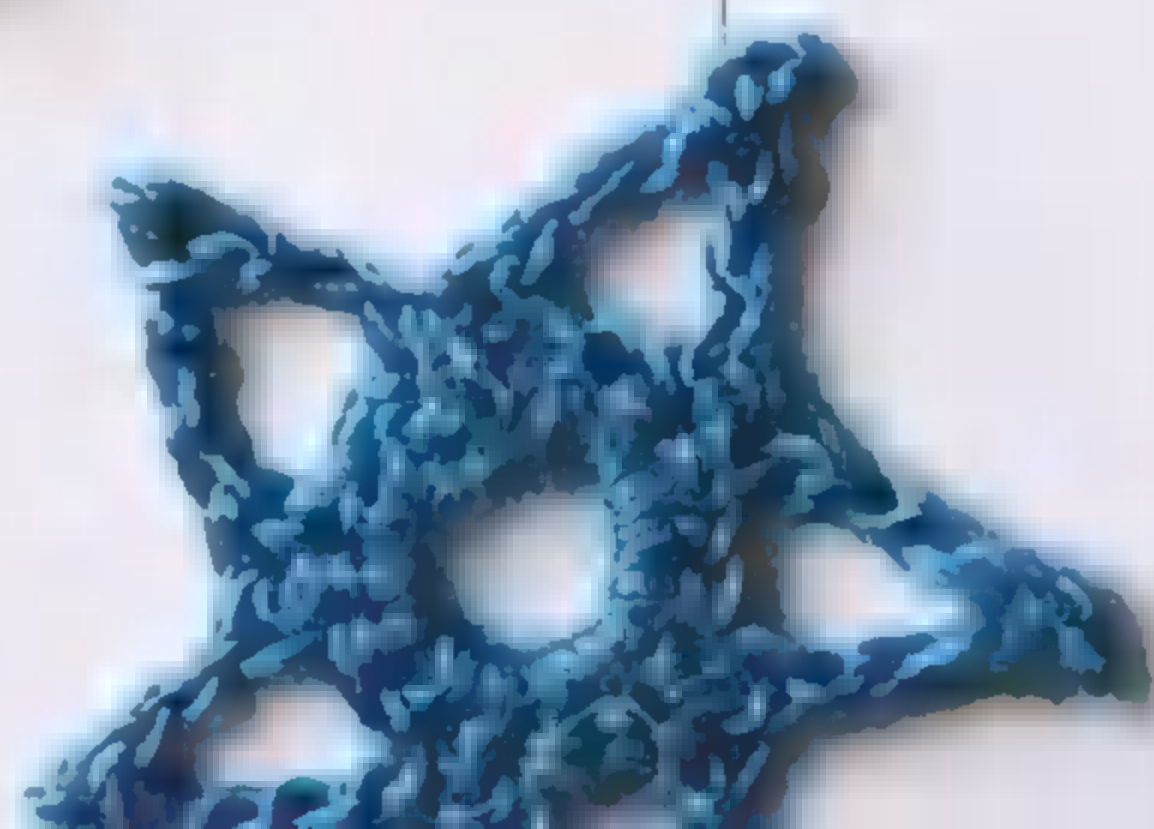
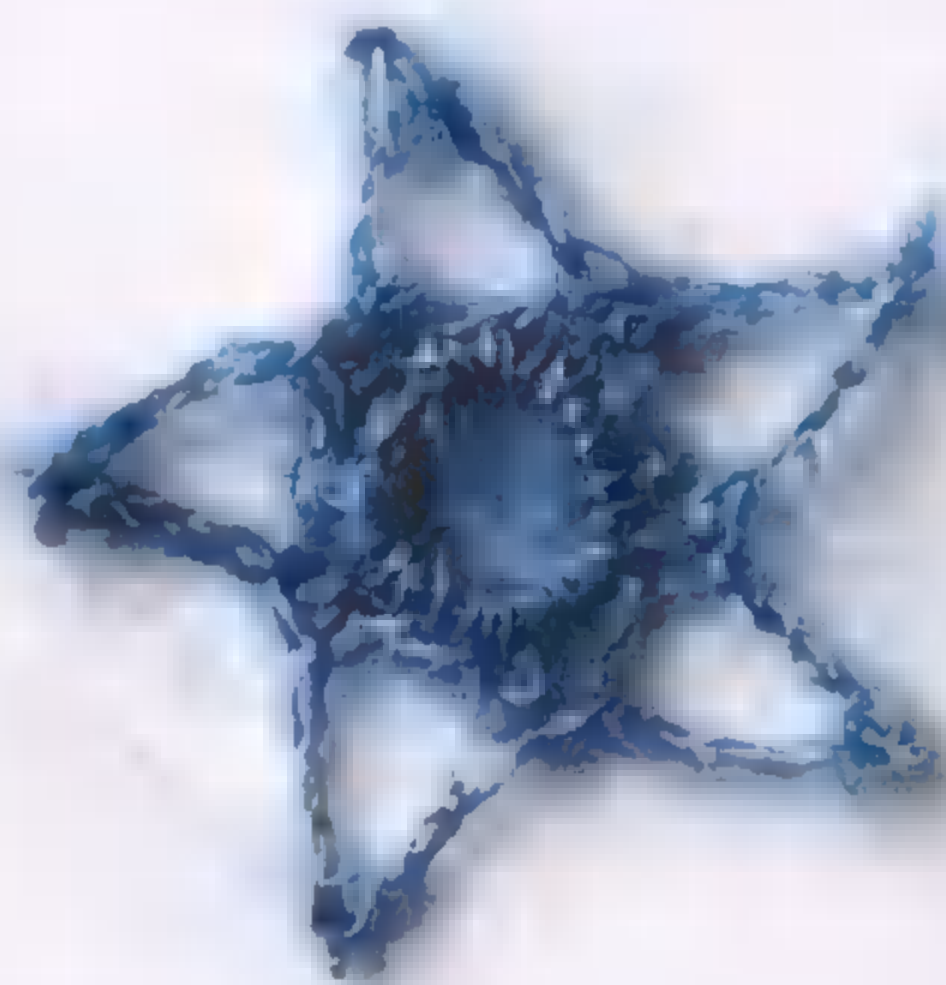
ROUND 1 Ch1 (does not count as st) 15dc in ring, ss to first dc to join.

ROUND 1 Ch1 (does not count as st), *dc in next st, ch4, dc in second ch from hook, ch2, skip next dc of round 1, dc in next st* rep from * 5 times, ss to first dc to join.

FASTEN OFF and weave in ends.

PART
TWO

Let your crochet
shine!



NOVITA HYGGE WOOL

WEIGHT Super-chunky
CONTENT 100% wool
BALL 100g/60m
HOOK 10mm
RRP £6.30



With their Finnish roots always at the fore, this Hygge wool by Novita certainly lives up to its name – it feels like a big, cosy hug! The combination of 100% wool and the super-chunky weight means it has a lovely squishable quality to it that you'll love working with. It's

available in five shades, and when you consider that it is ■ real wool yarn the colours are impressively deep, ranging from ■ popping pink to the darkest black. It's another hand wash only yarn, and apparently can also be used for felting!
www.novitaknits.com/en

SCHEEPJES CHUNKY MONKEY

WEIGHT Aran
CONTENT 100% premium acrylic
SKEIN 100g/116m
HOOK 5mm
RRP £2.99



If you thought that Scheepjes couldn't possibly bring you yet another must-have yarn for your stash – then think again! Their Chunky Monkey yarn is ■ lightweight, hypoallergenic premium acrylic (and we do mean premium – it's super smooth!) It's also anti-pilling,

which means you won't get any of those annoying bobbles appearing on your projects after a bit of use. And if there's one thing Scheepjes are famous for, it's choice of colours – this range comes in a whopping 93 shades! Machine wash at 40°.
www.scheepjes.com

CASCADE ECO+ HEMP

WEIGHT Chunky
CONTENT 80% wool, 20% hemp
SKEIN 100g/300m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £13.05



This Eco+ Hemp yarn features a range of qualities that make it not only good for the planet, but good for your crochet, too! Hemp is a bit of a wonder-fibre: it's naturally anti-bacterial, softens with use and dries well – in fact it's used in many everyday products, from rope to

shoes, and even inside your mattress! The combination of hemp with Peruvian Highland wool means that while it's not the softest yarn, it is incredibly hardy and retains structure brilliantly. Available in 19 earthy shades, all hand wash only.
www.cascadeyarns.com

RICO DESIGN ESSENTIALS SUPER KID MOHAIR LOVES SILK PRINT

WEIGHT Lace
CONTENT 70% mohair, 30% silk
BALL 50g/400m
HOOK 4.5mm
RRP £17.50



The name of this yarn certainly touches on its essentials, but how would we describe it? As a super-fine thread, with an impressive halo. Mohair yarn isn't to everyone's taste, but this special, high-quality blend means you get that full fibre effect as well as a sumptuous

silky feel that just begs you to touch it! The 'Print' part of the yarn's title refers to the fact that this yarn is self-striping (albeit with very long colour changes that are perfect for crochet). As you might expect, this delicate yarn is hand wash only.
www.rico-design.de/en/

MARRINER BABY SOFT MOSAIC

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 100% acrylic
BALL 100g/300m
HOOK 4mm
RRP £1.95



Yes it's 100% acrylic, and yes it's a budget yarn, but you'll be pleasantly surprised by this baby-soft offering from Marriner. It genuinely feels gentle when crocheting with it, and the resulting fabric doesn't have that slightly scratchy quality that marks out a lot of

budget acrylics. The five colourways all feature flecks and spots that complement the base shade nicely, creating a subtle colour effect that isn't too overwhelming. The yarn is machine washable at 40°.
www.marrineryarns.com
 02920 837 613

MALABRIGO SUSURRO

WEIGHT DK
CONTENT 50% mulberry silk, 25% merino wool, 25% linen
SKEIN 100g/297m
HOOK 3.5mm
RRP £14.49



If there's one word to use to describe the Susurro yarn from Malabrigo, it would be 'luxurious'! The combination of silk, wool and linen means you not only get a yarn that is light and beautiful to the touch, but one that also creates an amazing colour effect. Because

linen doesn't take on dye quite like silk and merino, the resulting look is almost metallic, giving it beautiful shine and lustre. It's available in 27 shades, giving you plenty of choice for your projects! Like most luxury yarns, this is hand wash only.
www.malabrigoyarn.com

Show us yours

JOIN OUR GANG OF TREBLE MAKERS AND SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND MAKES WITH US,
♥ FOR A CHANCE TO BE FEATURED HERE, USE OUR HASHTAG #SCTREBLEMAKER ♥



SO ZEN

Alison Pay's made our darling mandala design from issue 86, but where we envisioned it on the dining room table she's seen it as more of an al fresco accessory. And what a triumph it is, pairing beautifully with both her pot plant and her lawn, and being just the right sort of size for her garden table. Top work Alison, enjoy your mandala! 📷



REEL NICE JUMPER

Gwendy has sent in her completed fisherman's jumper, a project from the way-back-when of issue 68. She used Stylecraft Special DK in denim for the trims and King Cole Beaches in Bondi for the main colour, and we think it turned out a treat! Thanks for sharing, Gwendy. 📷

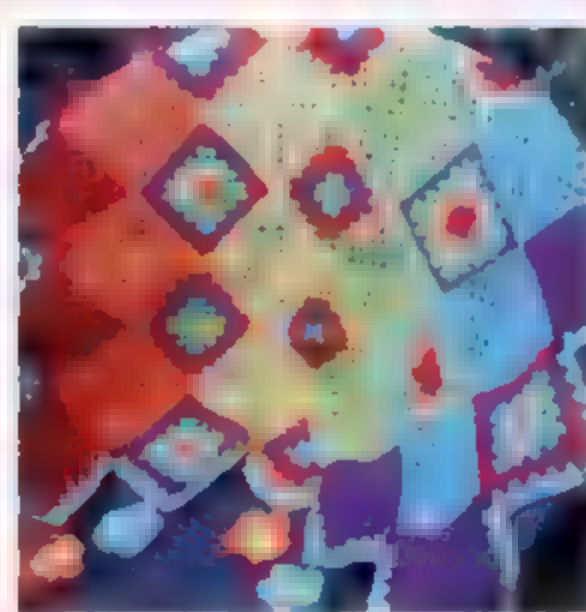
ROSES ARE RED

■ The filet crochet makes from issue 83 got a lot of us very excited at Crochet Towers, and we know you loved them all too! 'You' in this case being Michelle Wiles, who has made a stitch-perfect version of the rose heart shawl. And just in time for the new season – this will go beautifully with autumnal colours. 📷



DOUBLE TAP 📷

We've been double tapping on Instagram and admiring your makes. Tag us @simplycrochetmag and use the hashtag #SCTreblemaker 📷



BRIGHT 📷
@wendy5k4, known offline as Wendy, is singing a rainbow through the medium of crochet, with a little help from issue 86's blanket and cushion supplement.



HAT'S LIFE
@blossomxstitch, aka Emii, has wowed us with her granny bucket hat from issue 56, made up in colour clash brights for added fab. Loving your work Emii!



WIPNOHOOK
@artsyostrich, or Marisha to her friends, has made a mesmerising giraffe in c2c crochet. We are feeling sleepy... so sleepy... lucky it's a blanket really!



DUSK TIL 📷
The lovely Franca of @francacrochet is whipping through her WIP – the geometric cushion from issue 86's sun and shade collection. Nearly there Franca!

THE LOWDOWN

It's simple to be in with a chance of winning a great hooky prize in a future issue! Show us your *Simply Crochet* makes on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or via email or post by 16 October 2019.

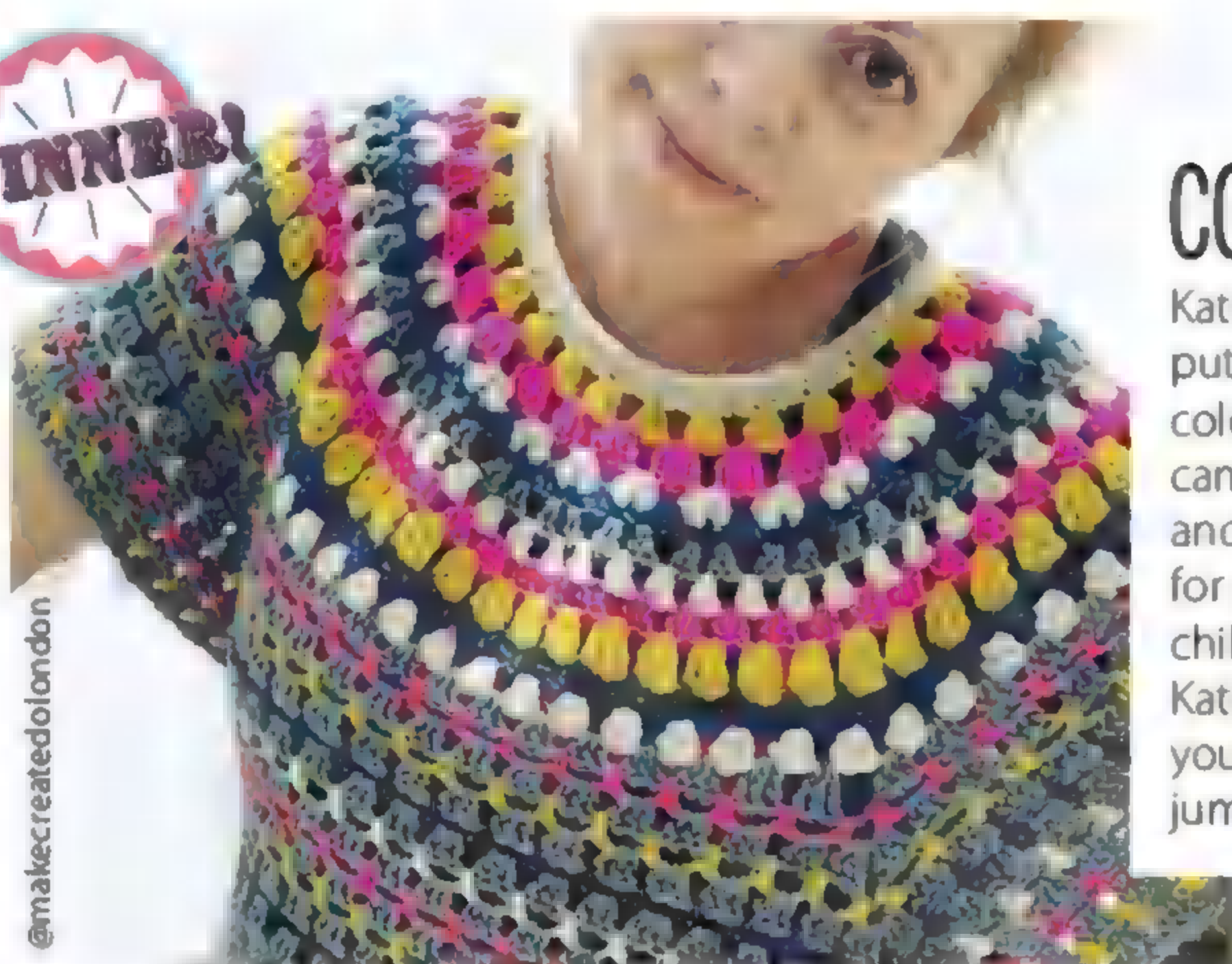
For all terms and conditions, and more information, visit www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk/competitionrules

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@SIMPLYCROCHET

WINNER!



@makecreatedolondon

COLOURFUL-LER

Katie of @makecreatedolondon put her mind to Katie Jones' colourful top from issue 77, and came up trumps with this bright and beautiful number, just right for staving off those late-year chills. We're loving your work Katie – and we're willing to bet you'll still be treasuring this jumper in decades to come! 📷

TRUE BLUE

Take issue 70 of *Simply Crochet*, add Beth (aka @kickarsecrochet) to the mix, give that mixture a stir... and voila! You've got the Wendy Sleeveless Tee, all ready to layer over a vest top. We're big fans! 🗨️



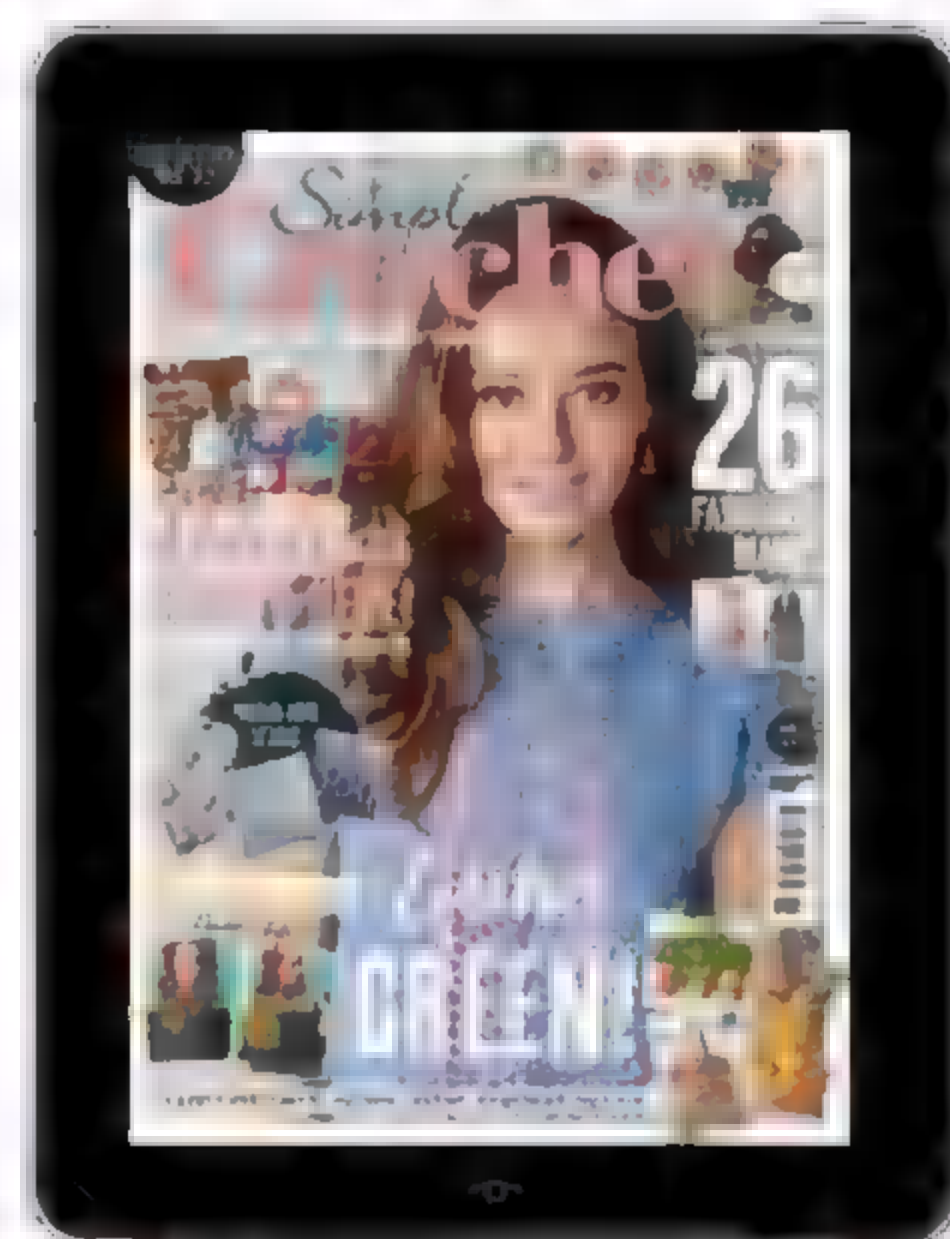
Simply Crochet SCTREBLEMAKERS

JOIN US ONLINE!

If you're looking to socialise with like-minded crocheters, then make sure you join our SCTreblemakers Facebook group – the place to share pictures of your makes, get pattern advice and recommendations, and generally talk about how much you love *Simply Crochet* magazine. With over 2.5k members, it's a bustling crochet forum full of friendly members. We look forward to chatting with you on there!

TALK TO US!

- 📌 Post a pic on our Facebook page facebook.com/simplycrochetmag
- 🐦 Tweet us @SimplyCrochet_ twitter.com/SimplyCrochet_
- 📌 Add to our Finished Projects board ravelry.com/groups/simply-crochet
- 📷 Use the hashtag #SCTreblemaker instagram.com/simplycrochetmag
- ✉ Email us at: simplycrochet@immediate.co.uk
or us at: **Simply Crochet**,
Immediate Media Co, Eagle House,
Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4ST



TAKE 1,000s OF PATTERNS WHEREVER YOU GO!

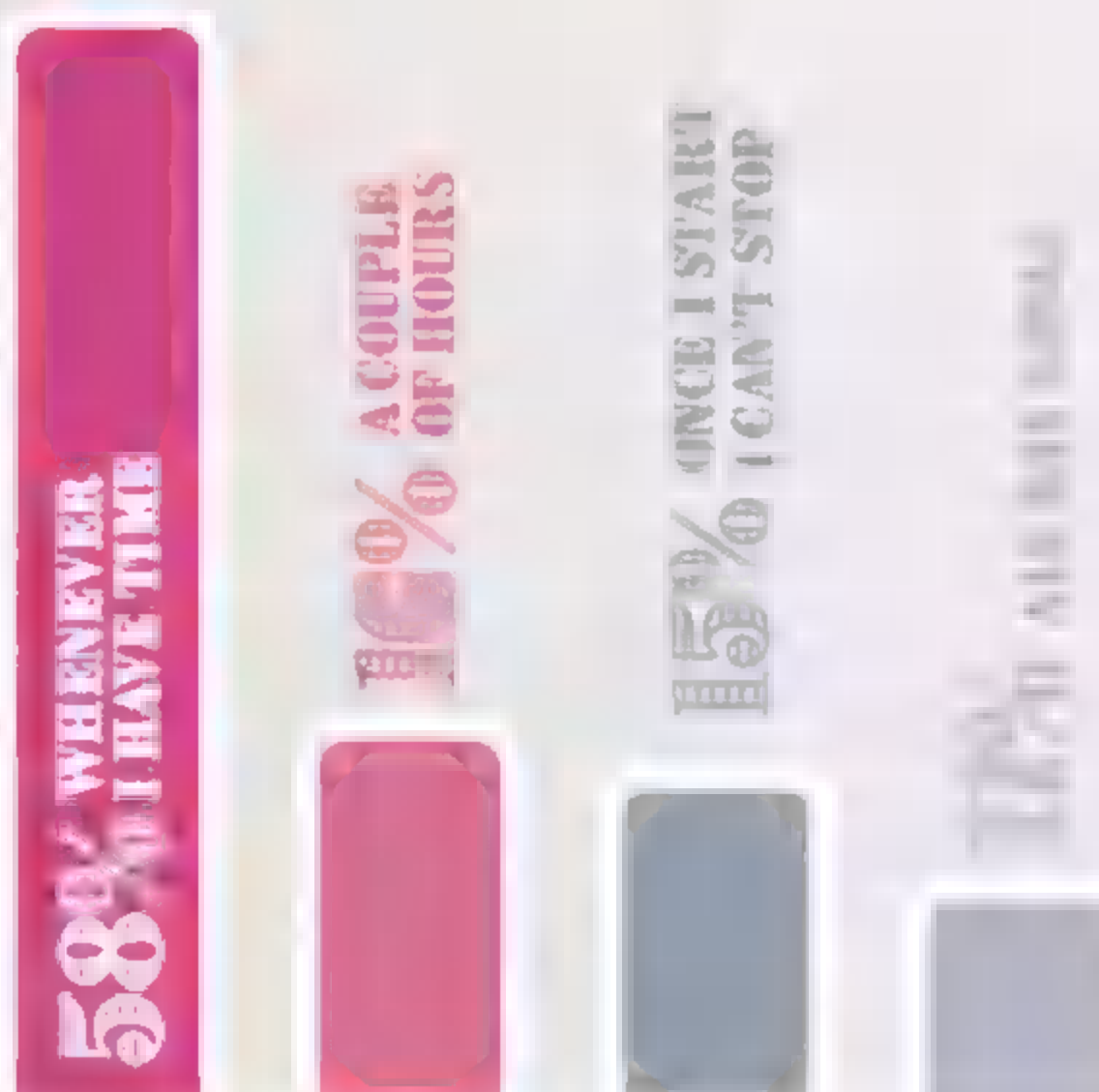


* Search for Simply Crochet on your chosen app store

Available on Apple, Google Play, Zinio and Nook

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How long do you usually crochet for?



Needle felting

DISCOVER A WHOLE NEW WORLD OF EMBELLISHING



MINI PENGUIN P81

Needle felting is a simple skill that has loads of creative potential for your crochet projects. It's a brilliant way to add extra patterns, shapes, appliqué motifs and embellishments to your crochet, without needing to grapple with complicated colourwork or master embroidery.

MAKING LIFE EASIER

Adding such details later means speedier hooking and gives you more flexibility because you don't need to hook the shapes into the fabric as you go.

Needle felting, also called dry felting, involves using a special needle in a stabbing motion to tangle fibres (usually wool) together to create a felted fabric. You can do this on top of another fabric to fuse the felted shape to that fabric.

You'll need a few special materials, but happily they're not expensive. We'll show you everything you need to buy and do to create simple shapes and embellishments, and then you can use your new skills to make our cute little penguin on page 81.

WHERE DO I START?

Start with a few new supplies

To do needle felting, you will need to buy a few items, but they shouldn't cost too much. You can usually purchase the basic supplies, or a starter kit, for less than £5. Read on for more details...

Wool roving, from £1.30 for 10g of one colour – or invest in a multipack with various colours

Protective gloves or finger protectors, from 99p

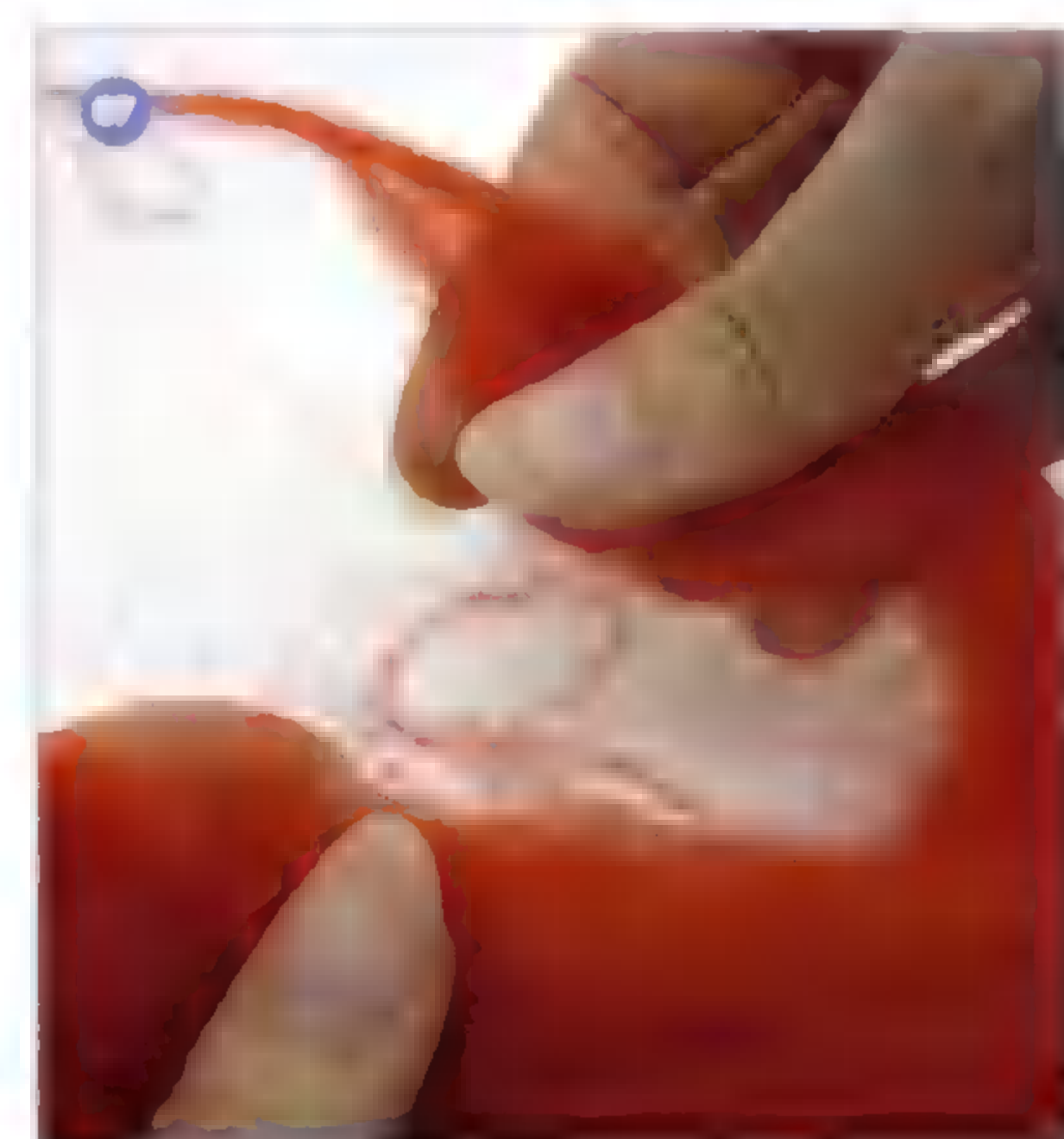
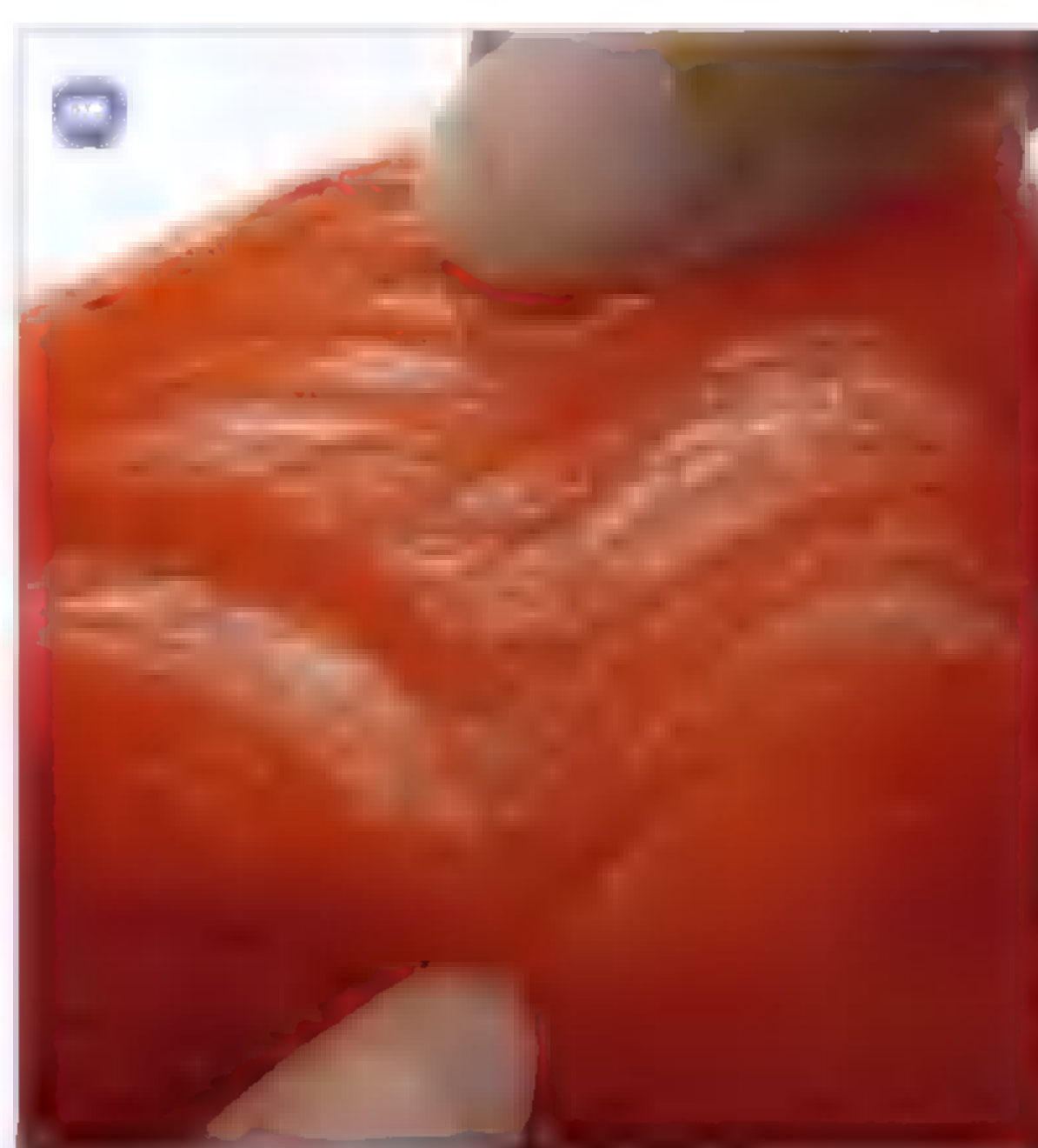
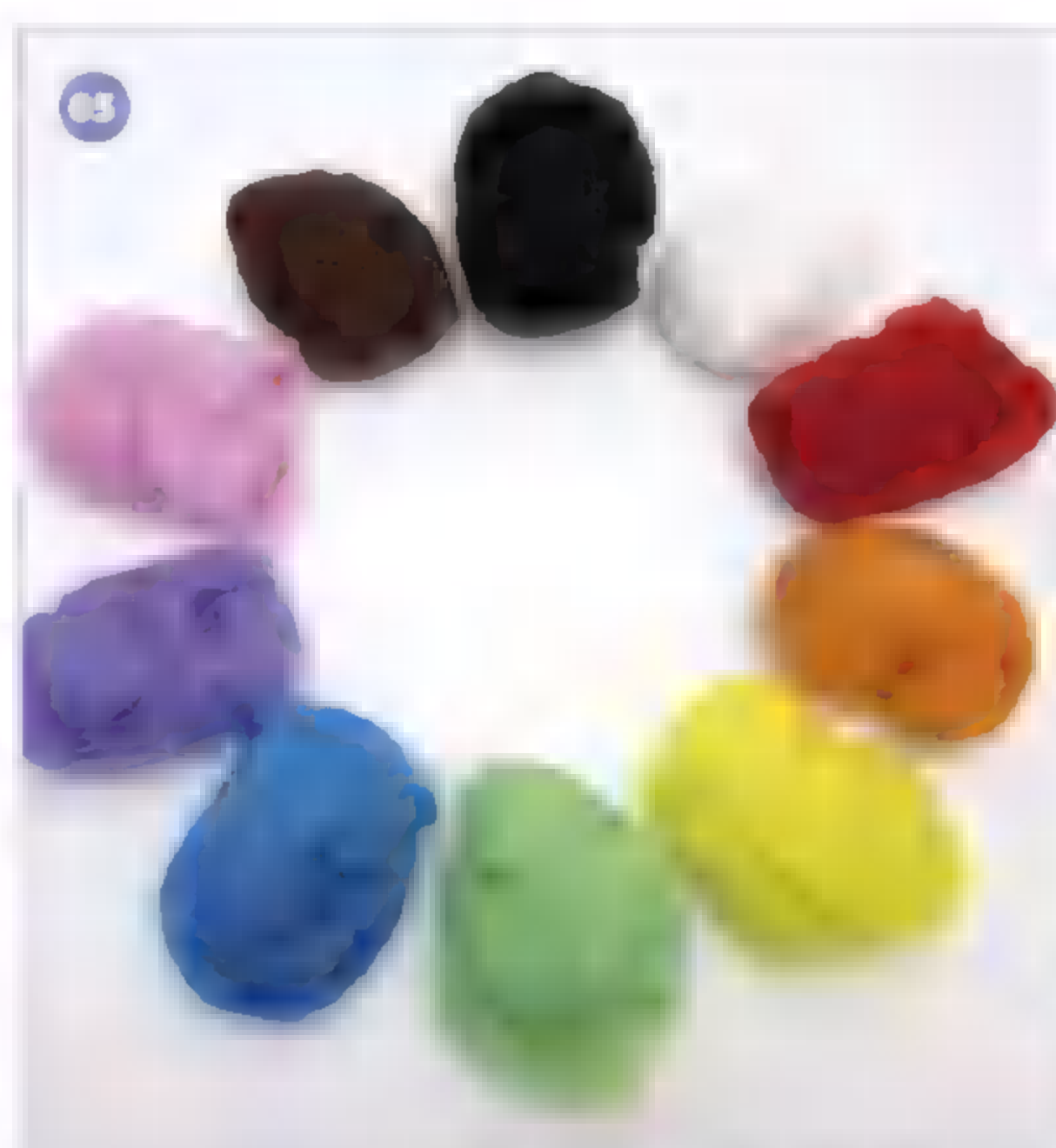
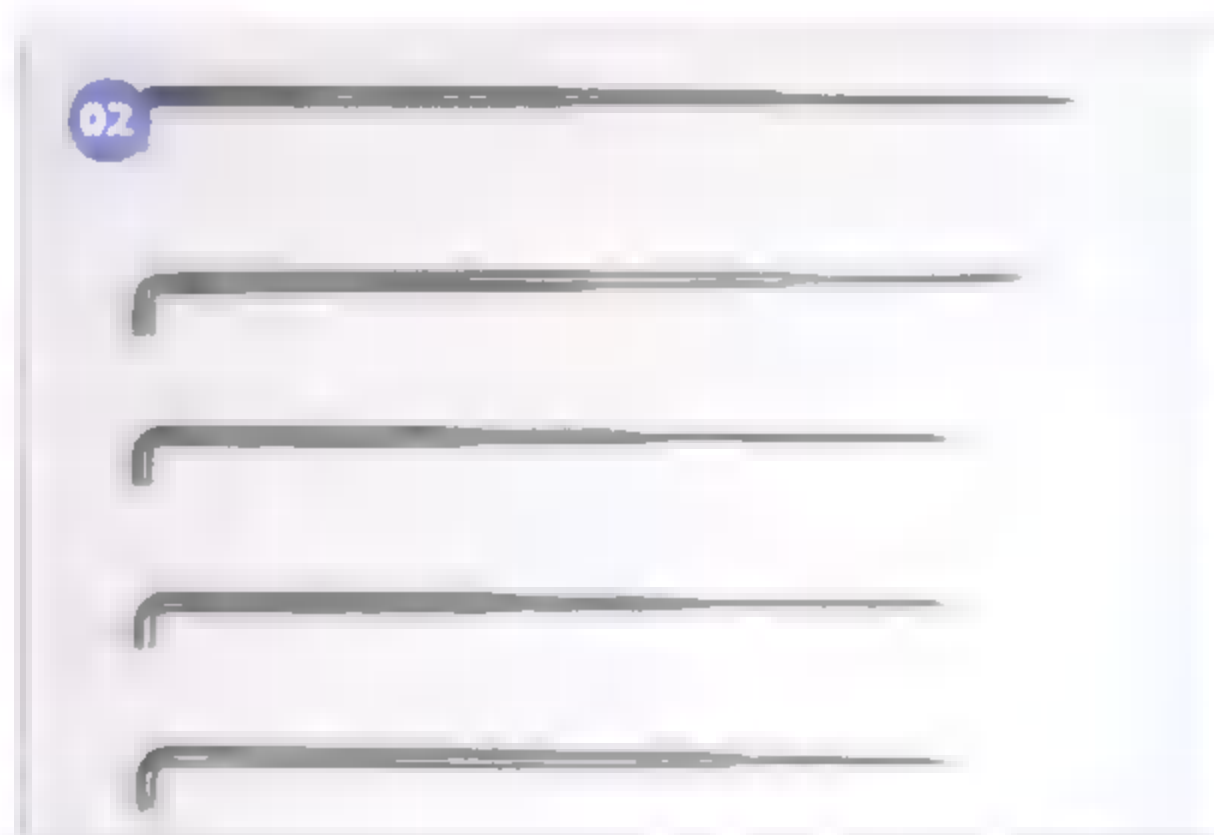
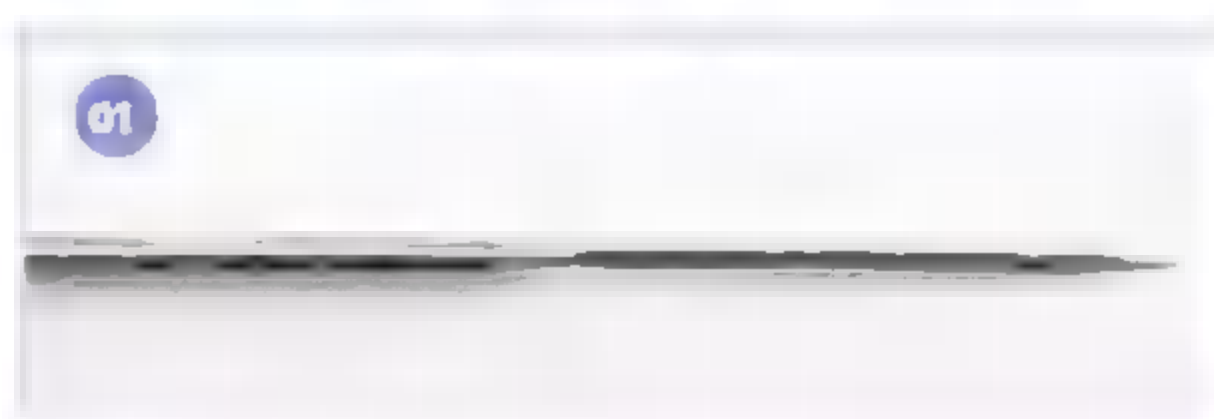
Optional needle felting brush, approx £5

A needle felting block or mat, from £1.50

Needle felting needles, from 99p each (optional holder from 99p)

HOW DO I CHOOSE WHAT TO BUY?

Here's our guide to buying supplies



Step 1 The key item you need for needle felting is a special felting needle, with small barbs along the sharp edges to pull the wool fibres into the fabric and encourage them to mat together. The needles are very sharp, so be careful when using them. The barbs also make the needles brittle, so try not to bend them or put pressure on them, otherwise they can snap.

Step 2 Felting needles come in different sizes, or gauges – the higher the number, the finer the needle and the smaller the barbs. Finer needles and fewer barbs will take longer to felt an item, so many pros start felting an item with a size 36 and then use a size 40 to finish the fine details. Felting needles also come in different shapes, including triangular, star, reverse/inverted, crown, forked and spiral/twisted, each of which is good for different jobs. A good needle for beginners is a size 36 gauge triangular, which has three sides and barbs at regular points (usually three on each edge).

Step 3 The simplest way to do needle felting is to use one felting needle by itself, just held in your hand. If you prefer, you can get a wooden handle to hold the needle. Once you're more confident, you could try using a special tool or larger wooden handle that holds four or five needles at once, which speeds up the process. Some tools also include a protective cover, which feels safer.

Step 4 Safety is really important with needle felting. Protect your work surface with a basic foam felting block (usually made from high-density foam) or a felting brush made of bristles. You can also make your own pillow using hessian filled with rice or similar. It's a good idea to use protective gloves or leather finger protectors to prevent injury, especially if you need to hold the project in your hand at any point.

Step 5 The other key item for needle felting is wool roving (also called tops). Roving is available in a rainbow of colours and is the best type to choose for needle felting,

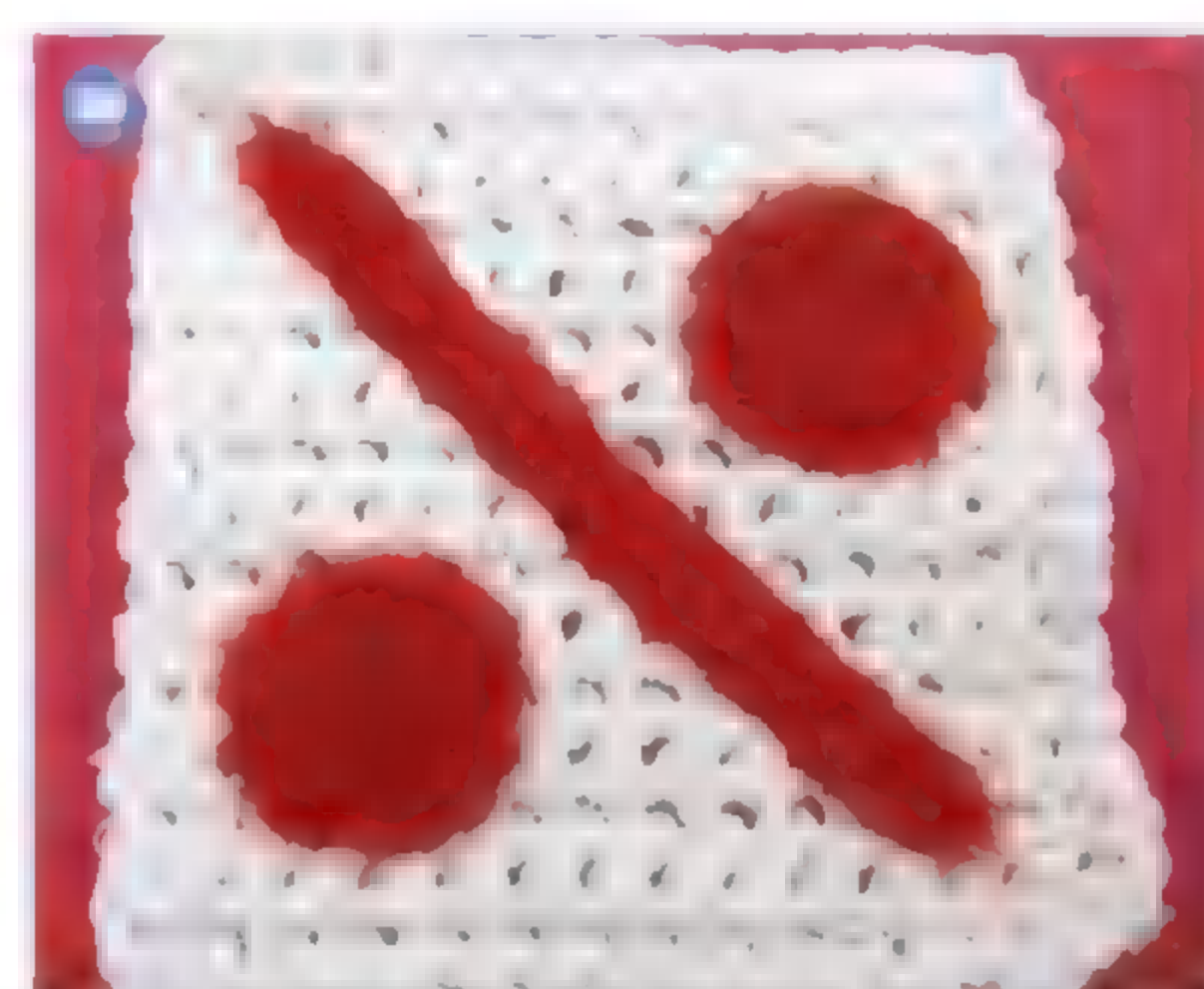
although you can also use batting. In general, you need a wool that is fairly coarse so that the fibres will felt together. You can also use a finer alpaca or merino wool roving, but the results will be quite different and usually take longer.

Step 6 Roving is a wool fibre that has been washed and combed so that all the fibres run in the same direction (horizontally here). Batting is a wool that's been washed and carded instead of combed, which means the fibres run in different directions. Batting is useful for needle felting the core of a 3D shape because it felts very quickly, then you can use roving for the outer layers or final details of the 3D shape. You can also use foam balls to form cores.

Step 7 To get a small piece of roving from a big section, never cut it. Instead, check which direction the fibres run (horizontally here) and pull the piece away in the other direction (vertically here). Start with a small piece, then add another layer on top for a thicker effect.

HOW DO I NEEDLE FELT?

Stab your way to colourful shapes and patterns!



Once you have all your supplies, you need a base fabric to felt your shape onto. You can use all sorts of crocheted or sewing fabrics, as long as the felting needle can easily enter and exit, and the fibres of the base fabric are fairly close together. For our practice base, we have made a double crochet fabric with cotton yarn. If you're in doubt, use a little wool roving to do a test on a spare piece of the base fabric.

Needle felting techniques vary depending on the result you want, but really the basic principle is the same: stab the fibres until you get the shape you want! We're going to needle felt a circle straight onto the base fabric, but you can also part-needle felt the shape first and then place it onto the base fabric and finish the felting to attach it.

Step 1 Place the base fabric onto your felting

block. Gently shape a small piece of wool roving in your hands into a rough circle. Place onto your base fabric, where you want the shape. Stab near the edge to roughly secure the outline. You need to stab gently but firmly, moving the needle in and out at the same angle to avoid bending and potentially breaking the felting needle. Take care to keep your fingers away from where the needle tip will emerge. Continue until the fibres begin to fuse.

Step 2 Now stab the centre of the shape until this is roughly fused in place.

Step 3 For a less fuzzy outline, try gently folding the fibres away from the fused outline and stab these into the centre of the shape – finger protectors will really help!

Step 4 You can stab the shape from any angle, as long as you enter and exit at the

same angle each time. Continue until the shape is as felted as you want – it will shrink quite a lot.

Step 5 Some fibres naturally emerge on the other side of the base fabric – if your fabric needs to be double-sided, fuse a shape in the same colour over these fibres.

Steps 6-8 Next, try making a 3D shape, such as a ball. The process is the same, but without the base fabric. So, roughly shape a piece of wool roving into a ball, then stab it with your needle, moving it around for an even felted finish until it's the size you want.

Step 9 Experiment by making more 3D or flat shapes, such as hearts, stripes or flowers, straight lines, curved lines... see what you can create. Some needle felters use cookie cutters as shape templates, so check your kitchen drawer for more ideas!



Cool dude

Use needle felting to add a fuzzy tummy, beak, eyes and hat bobble to Becky Skuse's adorable little penguin



YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft Classique Cotton 4ply (100% cotton, 50g/182m), a small amount of each: Sky Blue (3667), Soft Lime (3663)
- Approx 2g white wool roving
- Approx 1g of black wool roving or 2 safety eyes, 3mm
- Approx 1g yellow wool roving
- A 3mm (US C/2 or D/3) hook
- Toy stuffing

For yarn stockists contact
Stylecraft 01484 211111
www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project, but it may affect the yarn quantities required

MEASUREMENTS

Penguin measures approx 6.5cm (2½in) tall without Hat

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list, see page 81

Designer Becky Skuse says: "Have a go at needle felting with this simple and adorable little penguin project. You can make the penguin using just one yarn colour, and then bring him to life with extra needle-felted details – the tummy patch, eyes, beak and felted pompom are all quick and easy to needle felt in place. Top him off with a mini hat to keep him warm all through winter."

NOTES

Penguin is worked in rounds and each round is closed off with a slip stitch.
For the needle felting sections, follow the instructions in the technical feature on the preceding pages.

PENGUIN

BODY

Using Sky Blue, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as st throughout), 6dc into loop, ss to beg dc to join. [6 dc]

Round 2 (RS) Ch1, 2dc in each st around, ss to beg dc. [12 dc]

Round 3 Ch1, (dc in next dc, 2dc in next dc) around, ss to beg dc. [18 dc]

Round 4 Ch1, (dc in next 2 dc, 2dc in next dc) around, ss to beg dc. [24 dc]

Round 5 Ch1, (dc in next 3 dc, 2dc in next dc) around, ss to beg dc. [30 dc]

Rounds 6-9 Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss to beg dc.

Round 10 Ch1, (dc in next 8 dc, dc2tog) around, ss to beg dc. [27 dc]

Round 11 Ch1, (dc in next 7 dc, dc2tog) around, ss to beg dc. [24 dc]

Rounds 12-17 Ch1, dc in each dc around, ss to beg dc.
Stuff.

Round 18 Ch1, (dc in next 2 dc, dc2tog) around, ss to beg dc. [18 dc]

Round 19 Ch1, (dc in next dc, dc2tog) around, ss to beg dc. [12 dc]

Round 20 Ch1, (dc2tog) 6 times, ss to beg dc. [6 dc]

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Thread tail through final 6 sts, pull tight to close and weave in ends.

FLIPPERS

Using Sky Blue, make a magic loop.

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, 6dc into loop, ss to beg dc to join. [6 dc]

Round 2 (RS) Ch1, 2dc in each st around, ss to beg dc. [12 dc]

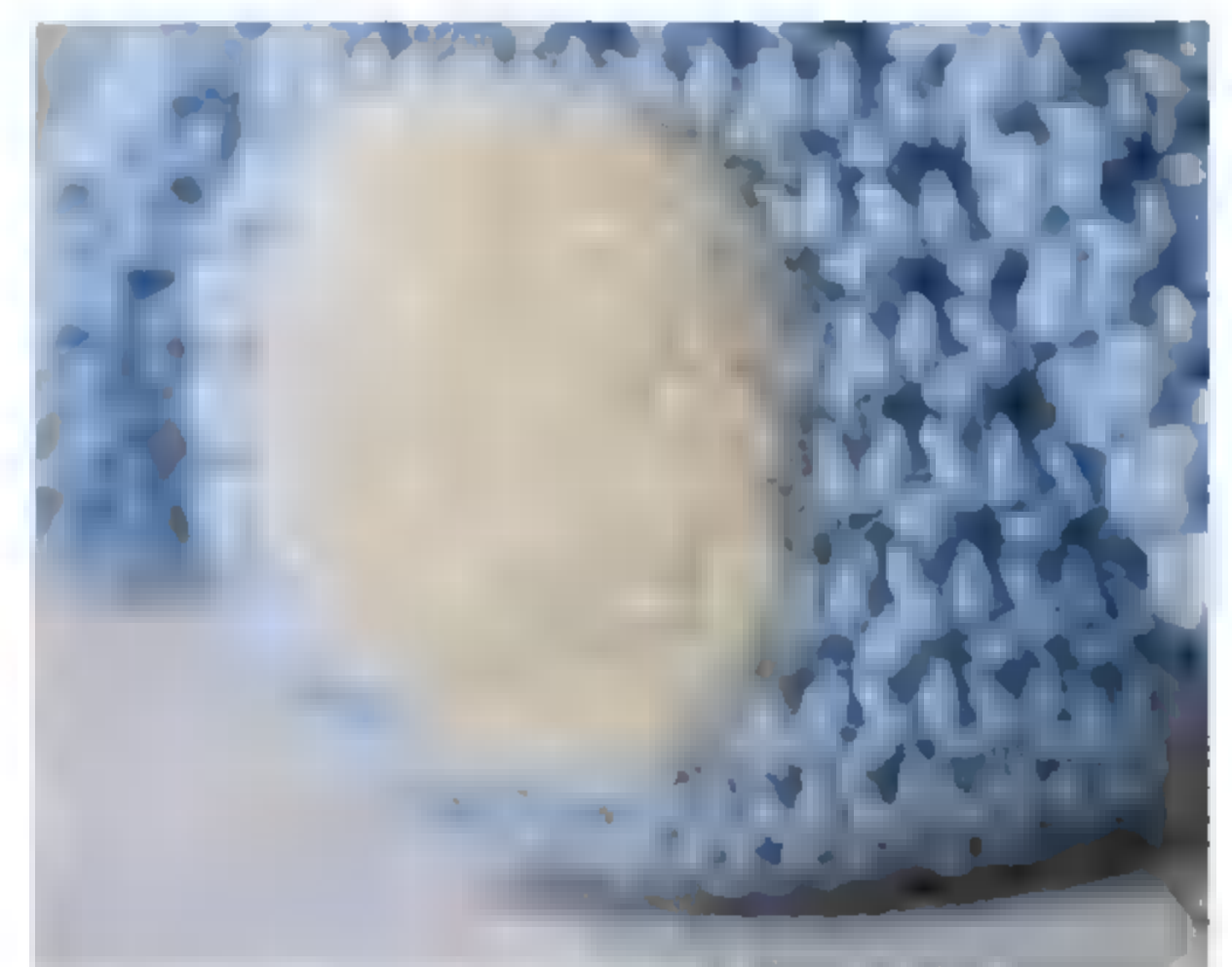
Rounds 3-9 Ch1, dc in each st around, ss to beg dc.

Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Use tail to sew Flippers to Body over Round 12, approx 7 sts apart at the Front. Weave in ends.



Use a small amount of black roving to felt the penguin's pupils, or safety eyes if you prefer



Position and needle felt the penguin's tummy carefully to get a smooth, round, fluffy shape

TUMMY

Needle felt a white patch over the tummy approx 2cm wide and 2.5cm tall.

EYES

Needle felt a white eye area approx 0.8cm wide and 1cm tall.

Needle felt tiny black pupils at the centre of each white eye area, or attach 3mm safety eyes if preferred.

BEAK

Needle felt a yellow beak – ours is approx 0.7cm diameter and 0.9cm deep with a pointed tip, positioned between the eyes and slightly further down.

HAT

Using Soft Lime, ch9.

Row 1 Dc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across, turn. [8 dc]

Rows 2-22 Ch1, dc in bl of each dc across, turn.
Fasten off, leaving a long tail.

Use the long tail to sew the two short ends together and gather up the top long edge. Pull yarn tight to close gathered end and weave in ends.

POMPOM

Needle felt a white ball approx 1.5cm diameter and attach to the top of the Hat.



LET'S CELEBRATE DOGS

We are a nation obsessed with dogs, and now yours could win you a coastal cottage getaway

For households up and down the land, a dog completes the family. They also make the perfect companion for the homebody hookster; it's that tail knocking your yarn off the table as you crochet, the chin on your knee that says 'Is this blanket being made for me?' That's why brand new website greatbritishdogs.co.uk has teamed up with dog food brand Winalot in an effort to find the nation's best boys and girls.

Winalot has been feeding the greatness in dogs since 1927, so it knows a thing or two about how much our furry friends mean to us. And joining the search for Britain's greatest dogs is Olympic gold medal-winning long jumper Greg Rutherford, owner of two great British dogs himself – Murphy the labrador and Gus the husky. Greg has been candid about how much his dogs have helped him

throughout his career, especially when things weren't going so well: "I'd come home from a hard day's training and they were always happy to see me no matter what. If you've had a really bad day and all you've got is this soppy-looking, waggy-tailed dog in front of you, it really can lift your mood."

And if you have dogs that make a big difference to you or your family's lives, or even just make you smile, why not share your super canine stories?

Greatbritishdogs.co.uk will be showcasing some of the soppiest, funniest, cutest dogs out there, and if you send your story in along with a picture of your pooch, not only will they be proudly on display for all to see, but you could also be in with a chance of winning a dog-friendly getaway to a coastal cottage of your choice. Need some inspiration? See Nicola and Flora's story on the right to get you inspired.



MEET NICOLA AND FLORA

Nicola was paired with her assistance dog Flora by Purina's charity partner Canine Partners, as she lives with a rare connective tissue disorder. In two years, Flora has made a world of difference, as Nicola explains: "As soon as I took Flora home, my parents were able to have their first holiday in ages without worrying about me. I've since been able to start an open degree in creative arts, and I've also started a not-for-profit where I teach disabled people how to alter their own clothing." Find out more at caninepartners.org.uk

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



For a chance to win a coastal cottage getaway, share your story and find more at greatbritishdogs.co.uk

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Crochet essentials

Over the next few pages, you'll find simple step-by-step guides to many useful stitches and techniques that you'll use every time you pick up a hook

HOLDING THE HOOK

Try these methods and see which works best



PENCIL METHOD

Hold the hook like a pencil, in your right hand (if you're right-handed), about 3-5cm from the hooked end. If your hook has a flat area, you'll find it comfortable to hold it here.

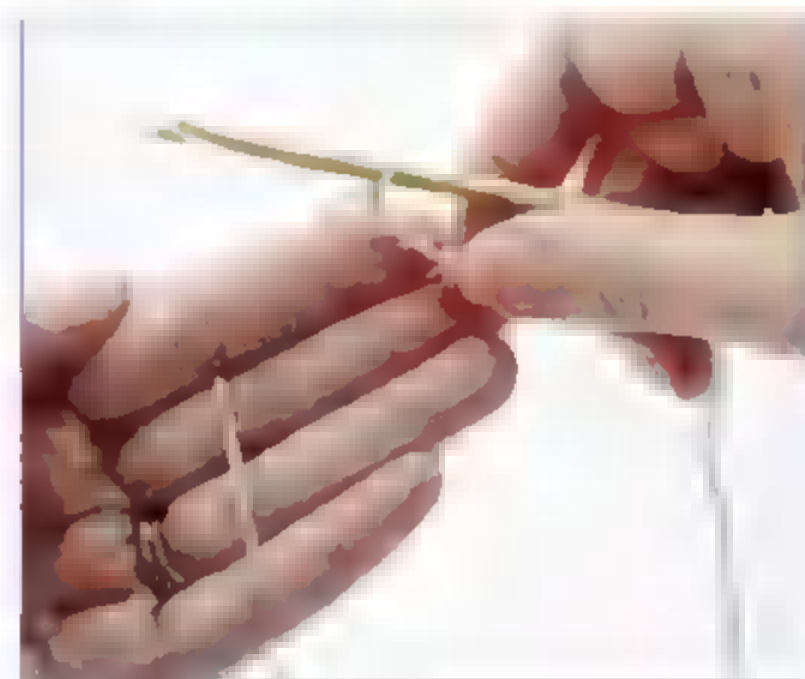


KNIFE METHOD

Hold the hook between your thumb and forefinger, about 3-5cm from the hooked end, resting the end of the hook against your palm. This will give you lots of control.

HOLDING THE YARN

Even tension results in even stitches



METHOD ONE

Pass the ball end of the yarn between the little finger and third fingers of your left hand (if you are right-handed), then behind the third and middle fingers, over your index finger.



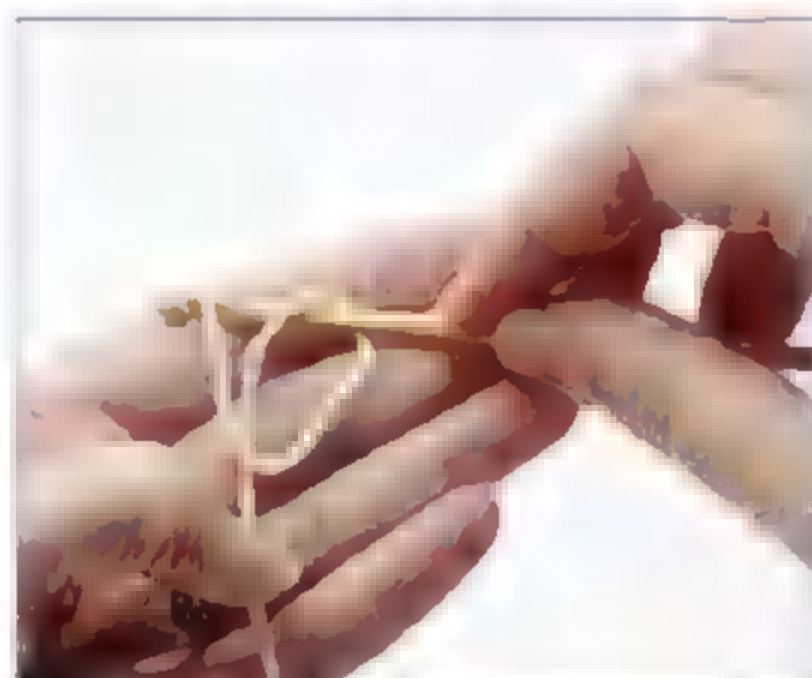
METHOD TWO

Loop the ball end of the yarn loosely around the little finger of your left hand, then take it over the third finger, behind the middle finger and over your index finger.

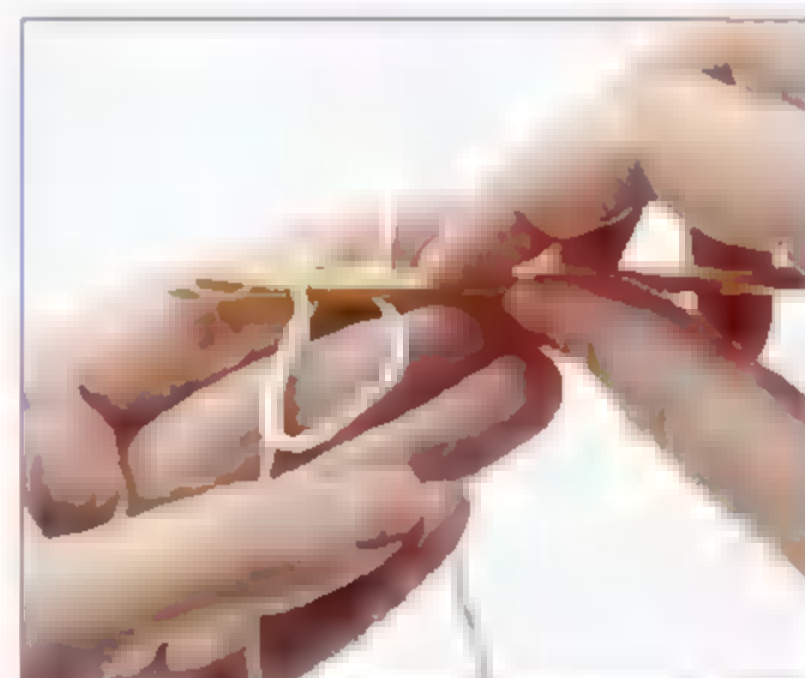
MAKING A SLIPKNOT The first loop on the hook



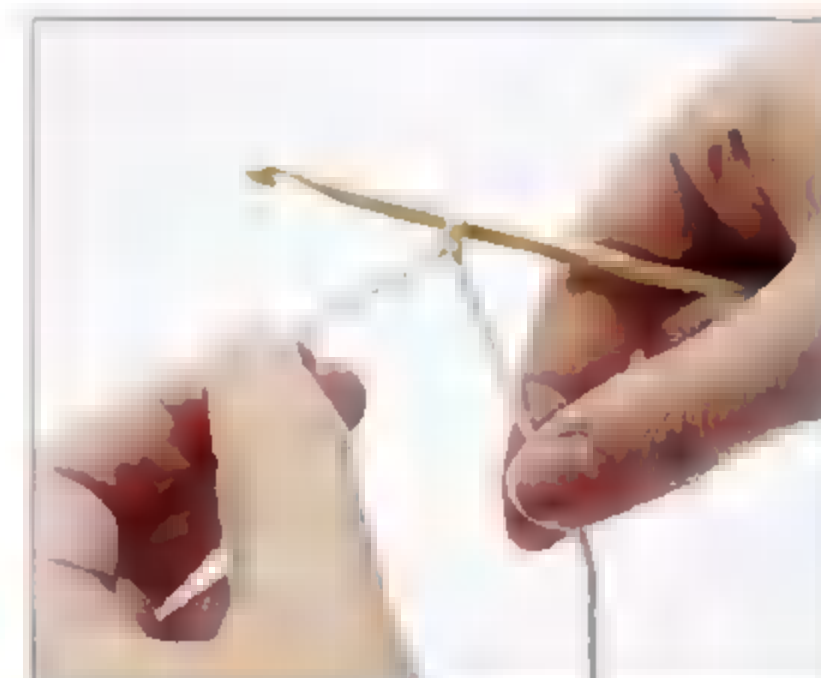
1 Hold the tail of the ball of yarn in your left hand and drape the yarn clockwise over the top of it to form a loose, circular loop.



2 Hold the loop between left thumb and forefinger, then insert the crochet hook through the centre of the loop from front to back.



3 Catch the ball end of the yarn with the hook and pull it back through the centre of the loop, taking the yarn through with it.

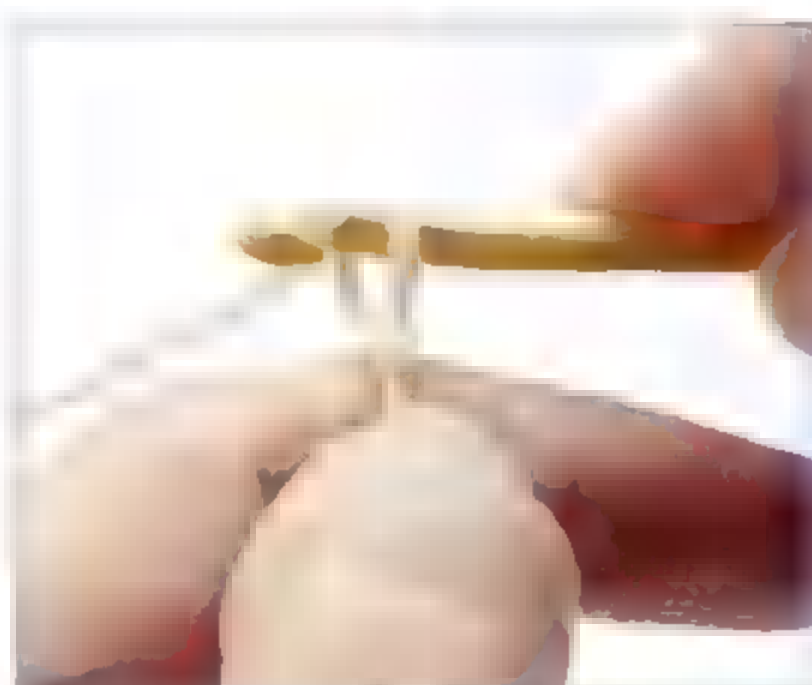


4 Pull both ends of the yarn to tighten the knot, then pull just the ball end to tighten the loop so it's close to the hook, but not touching it.

CHAIN STITCH Use this stitch to make your foundation chain



1 Hold the hook in your right hand, and both the yarn end and the working yarn in your left hand. Move the hook under and over the yarn to wrap it around anticlockwise.



2 Pull the hook towards the slipknot, catching the yarn in the hook, and pulling it through the slipknot loop. This forms your first chain (ch) stitch. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to form a chain length.



3 This is what your row of chains will look like. Hold the chain with your left hand near the hook, to keep the tension. Keep going until you have the number of chains that's stated in your pattern.

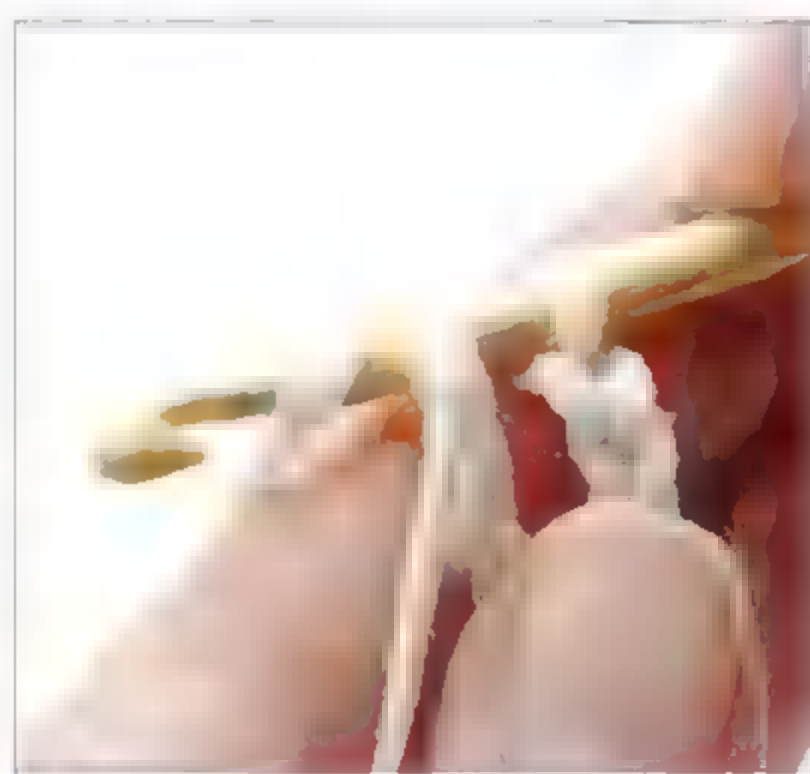
How to count chains



Each chain or loop counts as one stitch. Never count your first slipknot or the loop on the hook (called the working loop). So that you can be accurate, make sure the chain is not twisted and that the front is facing you.

SLIP STITCH (ss)

This stitch has no height – often used to join rounds



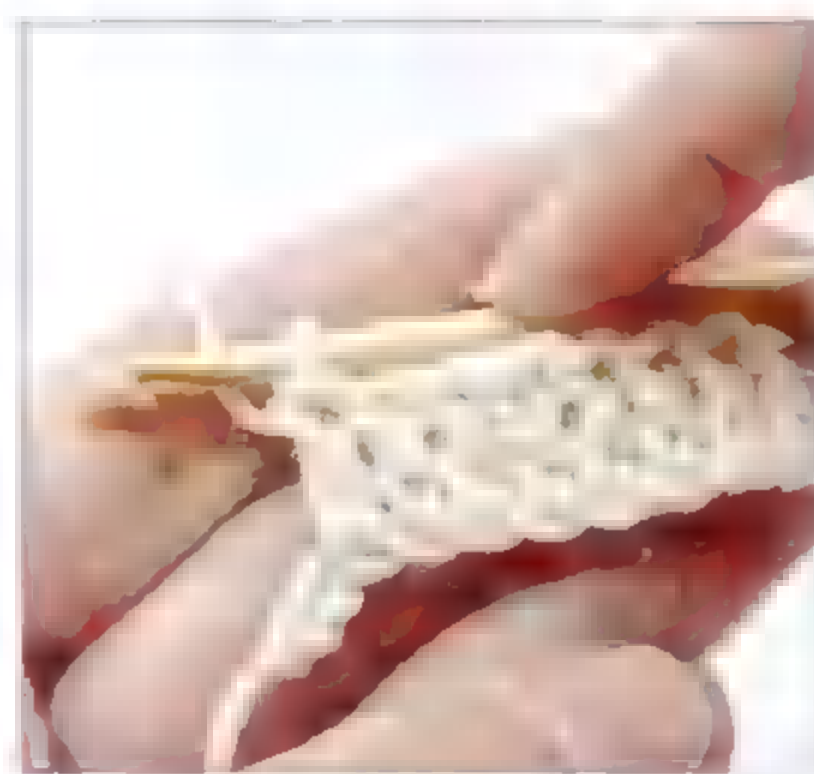
1 The slip stitch is used to join a length of chain into the round. Insert the hook from front to back into the first chain you worked. Wrap yarn round the hook (yrh) in an anticlockwise direction.



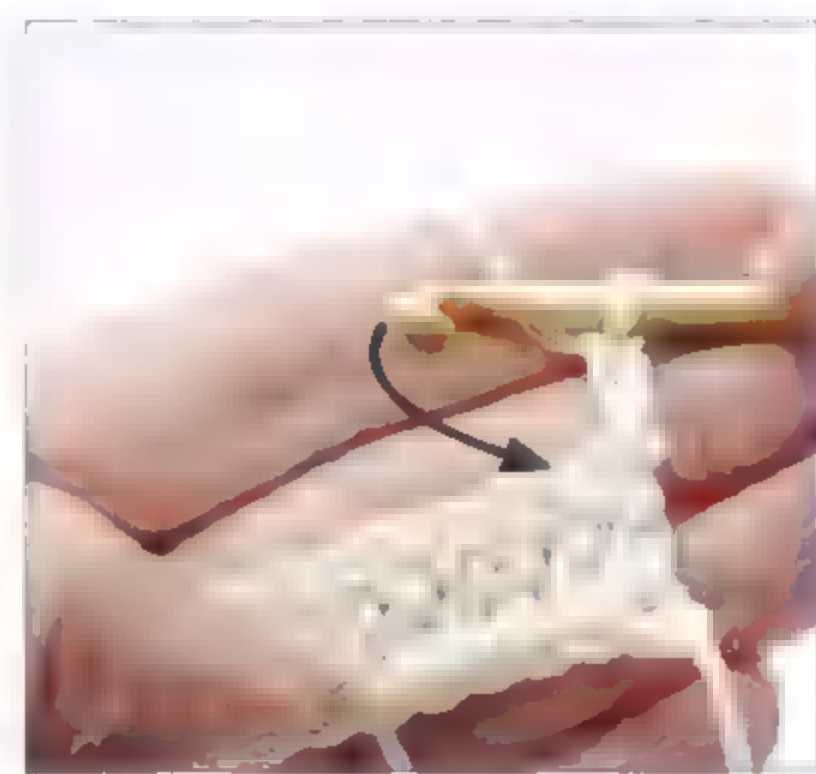
2 Pull the yarn through the chain stitch (as shown) and then the loop already on the hook to make a slip stitch. You can also work this stitch into each stitch along a row to form a neat edging.

WORKING IN ROWS

Follow these simple rules to construct crochet fabric



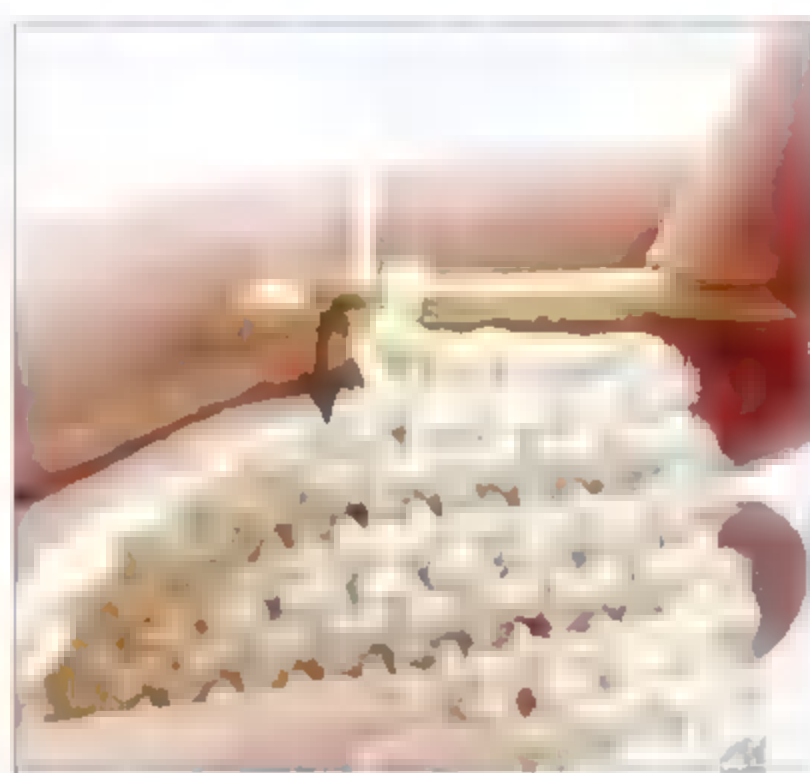
1 The first row is made by working across the foundation chain from right to left. At the end of the chain or row, turn the work so that the yarn is behind the hook.



2 For the next row, first make the turning chain for the stitch you're about to work (see opposite). Now work the next stitch into the top of the stitches on your first row, missing the first stitch.

DOUBLE CROCHET (dc) US term: single crochet

One of the key stitches in crochet, doubles are simple, compact stitches that form a dense fabric



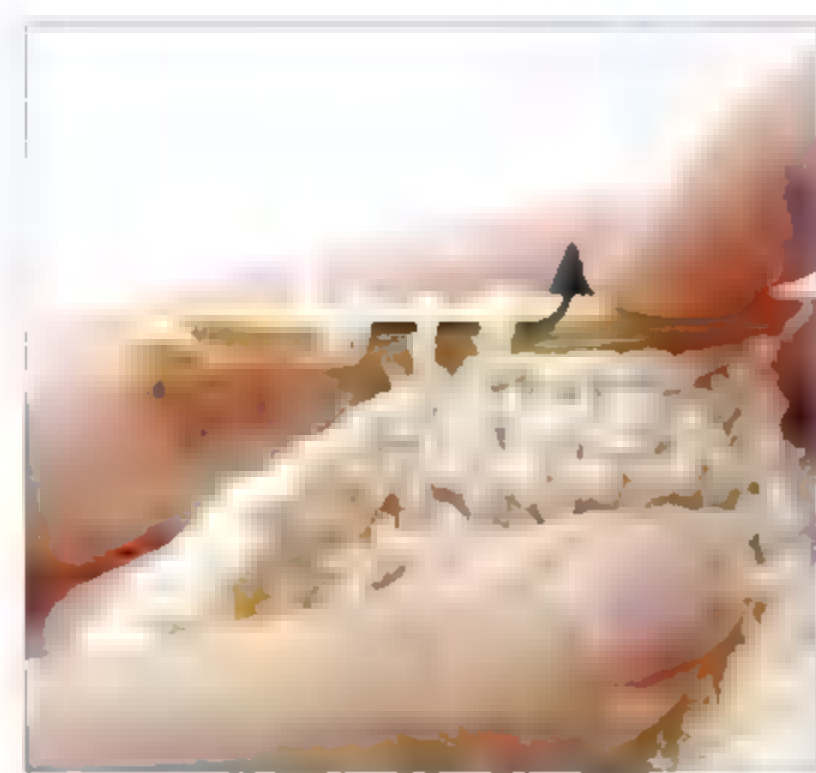
1 To make a double crochet stitch, insert the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch on the previous row.



2 Wind the yarn around the hook (yrh).



3 Pull the yarn through the stitch, giving you two loops on your crochet hook.



4 Yarn round hook again, then pull the yarn through both loops. There's your double crochet made and you'll have one loop left on the hook, ready to do the next stitch.

HALF TREBLE CROCHET (htr) US term: half double crochet

A handy stitch that's between double and treble crochet in size, and it looks slightly looser than double crochet



1 To make a half treble crochet stitch, work to where you want the htr and then wind the yarn round the hook (yrh).



2 Insert the hook under the top two loops of the next stitch in the previous row. Wrap yarn around the hook again (yrh).



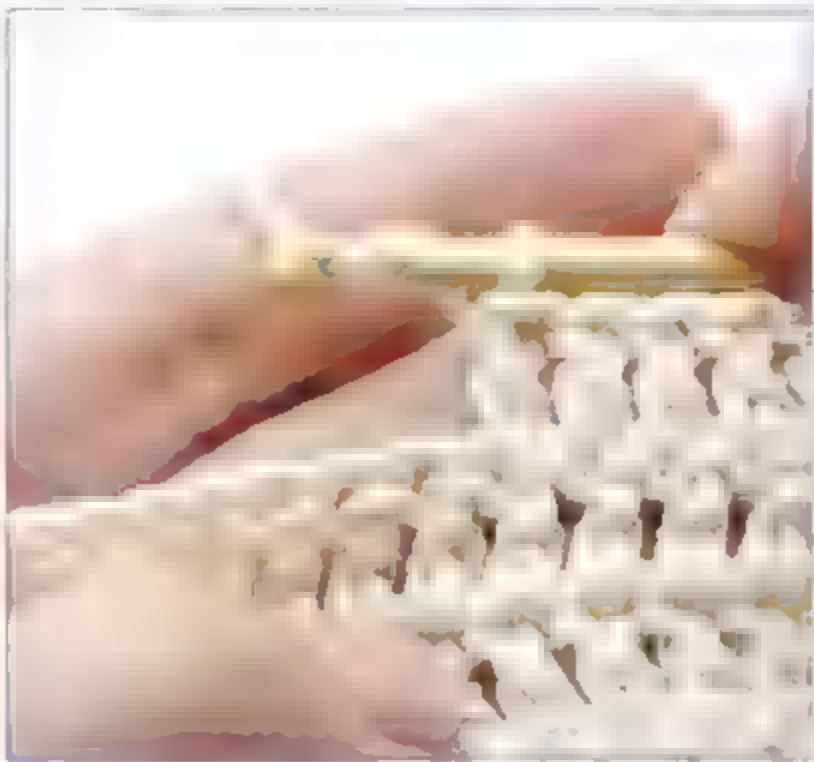
3 Pull the yarn through the stitch only (3 loops on hook).



4 Yarn round hook again, pull the yarn through all 3 loops. You've made a half treble crochet. Continue working htr into next and following sts to the end of the row.

TREBLE CROCHET (tr) US term: double crochet

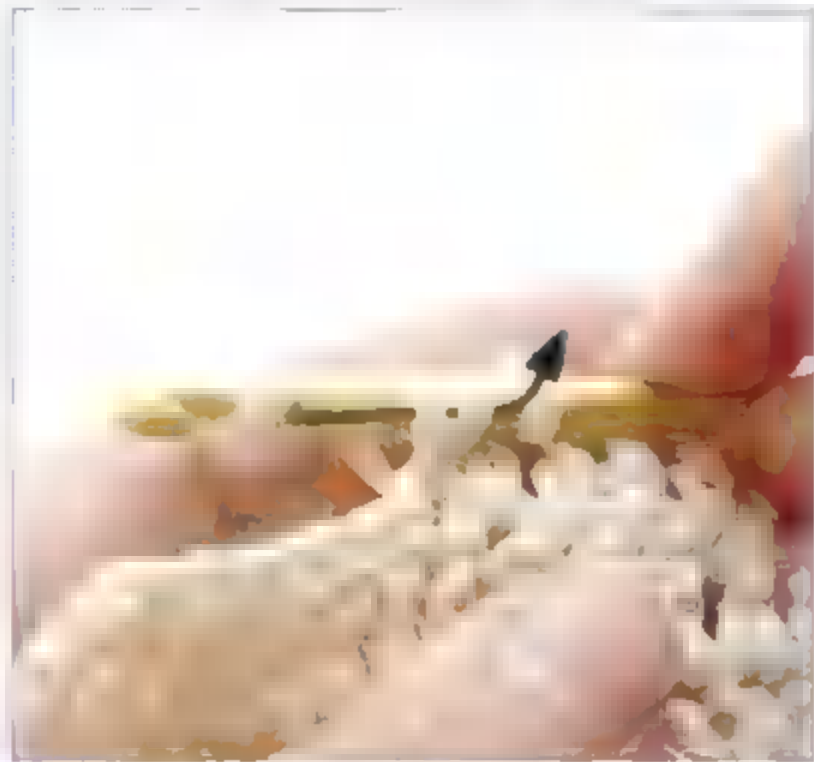
One of the most popular stitches in crochet, this simple stitch is twice as high as a double crochet stitch



1 To work a treble crochet, start by winding yrh and then insert the hook under the top two loops of the stitch on the previous row.



2 Wrap the yarn around the hook (yrh) and pull the yarn through the stitch only.



3 You will now have 3 loops on the hook. Yrh again, and draw the yarn through just the first 2 loops on the hook.



4 You will now have 2 loops on the hook. Yrh again and draw the yarn through the remaining loops on the hook. Your treble crochet is complete.

DOUBLE TREBLE CROCHET (dtr)
US term: treble crochet

This is a stitch regularly used as an elongated version of the treble (described above). It's worked in a very similar way to the treble, as follows:

- 1 Make a foundation chain. Skip 4ch, *yrh twice, and insert the hook under the top loop of the next ch.
- 2 Yrh, pull the yarn through the ch loop only (4 loops on hook).
- 3 Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (3 loops on hook).

- Yrh and pull the yarn through 2 loops only (2 loops on hook).
- 4 Yrh and pull the yarn through the remaining 2 loops. Repeat from * to make more dtr sts.
- 5 To make the next row of dtr, turn work and ch4. This turning chain counts as the first dtr in a new row. Skip first st at the base of the t-ch, work 1dtr under the top two loops of the 2nd stitch in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

TRIPLE TREBLE CROCHET (ttr)
US term: double treble crochet

This is one of the longest standard crochet stitches and is mainly used in fancy stitch patterns. It's taller than a double treble crochet stitch (described left) and is worked in a very similar way, as follows:

- 1 Make a foundation ch. Skip 5 ch, *yrh 3 times, insert hook under top loop of next ch.
- 2 Yrh, pull yarn through ch loop only (5 loops on hook).
- 3 † Yrh, draw loop through 2

- loops only. Repeat from † 3 times more and your triple treble will be finished. Repeat from * to make more ttr sts.
- 4 To make the next row, turn work and ch5. This turning chain counts as the first triple treble in a new row. Skip first st at base of the t-ch. Work 1 triple treble, inserting hook under the top 2 loops of the 2nd st in the previous row; continue to the end of the row.

TURNING CHAIN (t-ch)
For an even finish, start each row with a turning chain

In crochet, you need to add tuning chains (t-chs) to the beginning of rows. The reason for this is to bring the hook up to the height of the stitches you're crocheting. Each basic stitch has its own number of chains. The

table below tells you how many t-ch sts form the first stitch. *For dc, usually the turning chain does not count as a stitch, and the first stitch of the row is worked into the stitch at the base of the turning chain.

STITCH	Add to foundation chain before starting row	Skip at start of foundation row (counts as first st)	For turning chain (counts as first st)
Double crochet	1 ch	1 ch*	1 ch*
Half treble	1 ch	2 ch	2 ch
Treble	2 ch	3 ch	3 ch
Double treble	3 ch	4 ch	4 ch
Triple treble	4 ch	5 ch	5 ch

How to count stitches

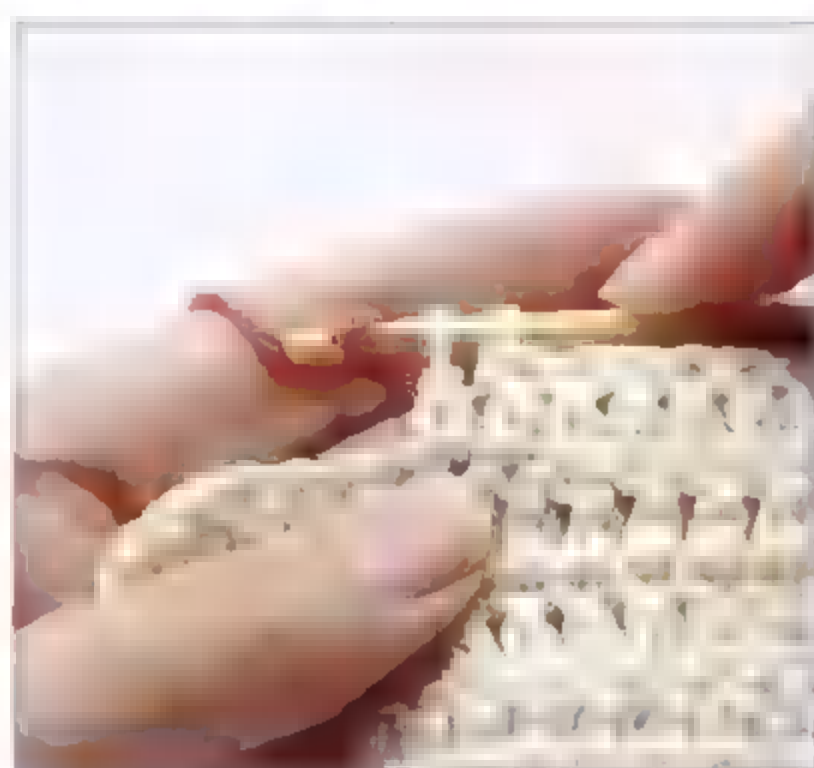
Check your work is correct

Being able to count your stitches is very important and helps you to ensure that you're following a pattern correctly. It's a good idea to count your stitches at the end of every row. To count short stitches such as double crochet, look at the plaited tops (see above right). For taller stitches, count the upright 'stems' – each 'stem' is counted as a stitch (see right).

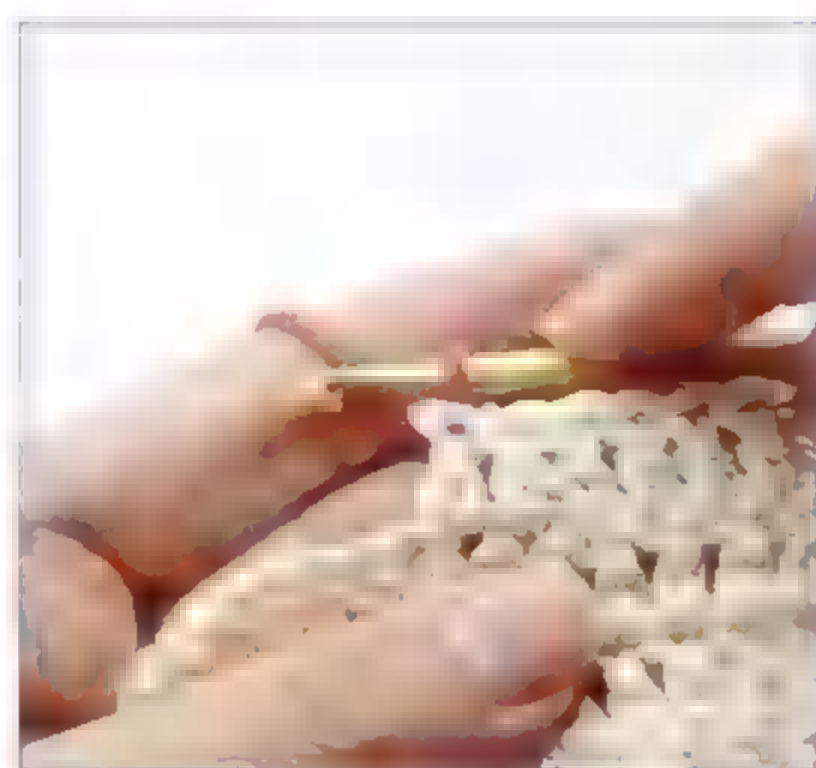


HOW TO CHANGE COLOUR

Create stripes and other colour effects



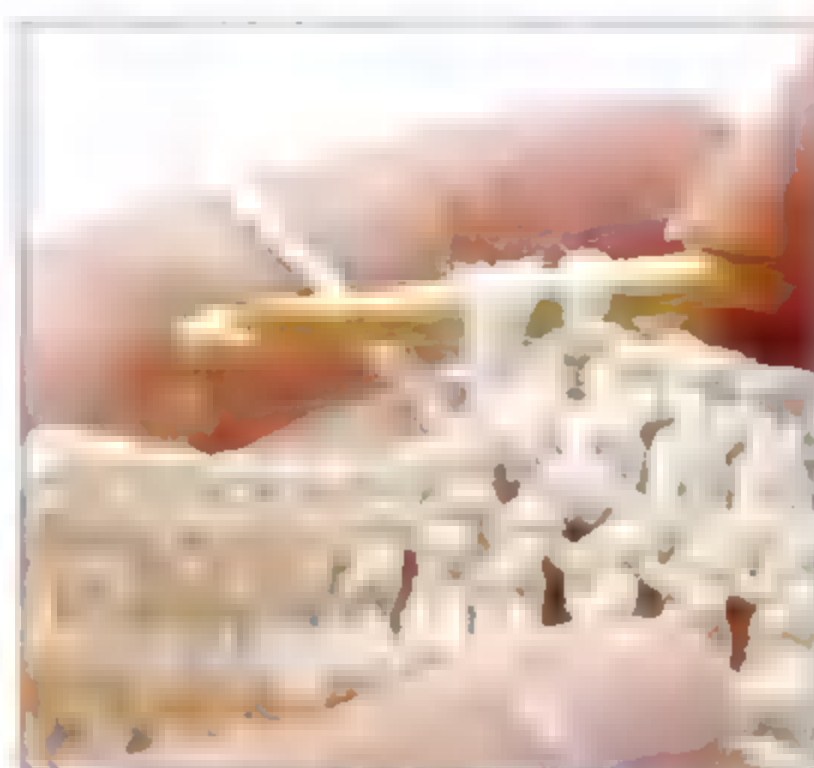
1 Before you work the final yrh (yarn round hook) on the last stitch of a row in the old colour, drop the old yarn and then pick up the new one with your hook.



2 Pull through a loop of the new yarn to finish the old stitch. The working loop will be in the new colour. Continue, keeping the old yarn at the wrong side.

INCREASING AND DECREASING

Shaping stitches are vital for making garments



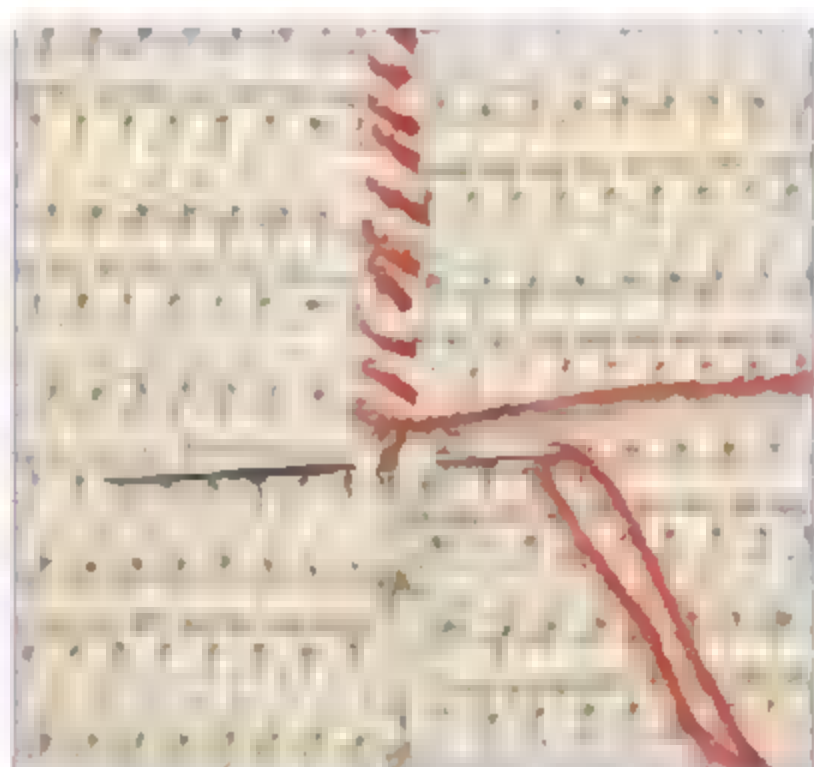
INCREASE To increase one stitch is very simple – work one stitch into the next stitch on the row below. When you've finished, work another stitch into the same stitch.



DECREASE For a quick decrease, just skip one stitch. For a neater look, work the first part of one stitch and then begin the next stitch. Finish both together.

SEWING SEAMS

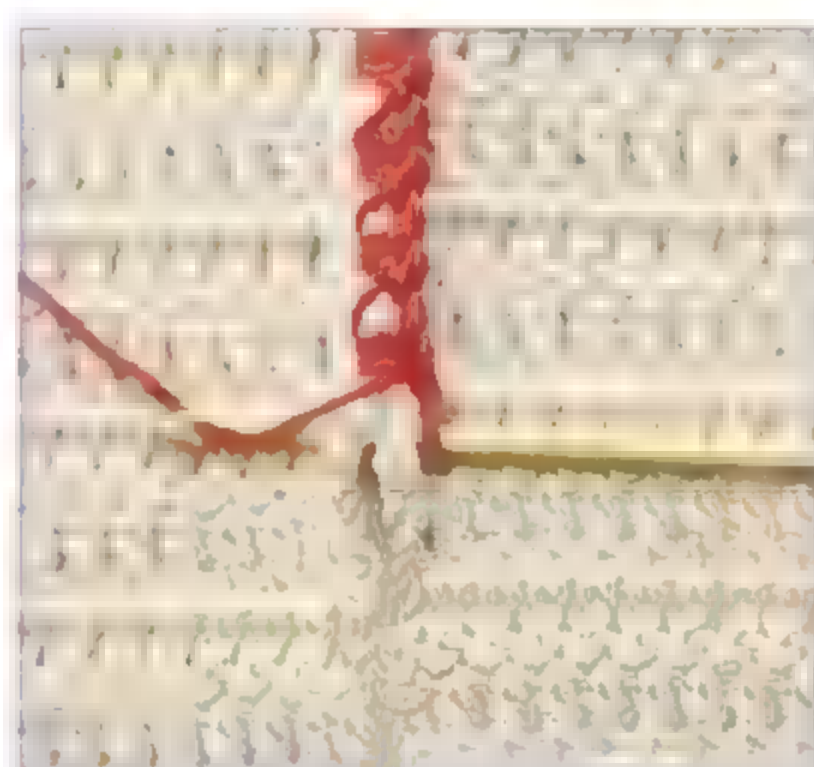
You can join crochet seams by using a tapestry needle or a crochet hook, using one of these four methods



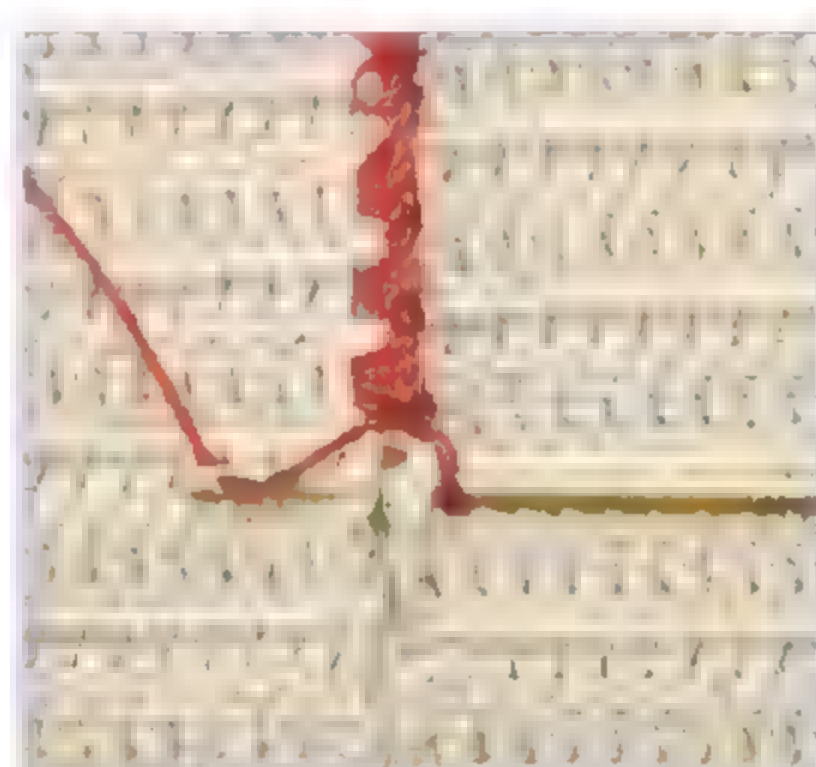
1 Sewing with a tapestry needle is the regular and neat way to join seams. Place two pieces of crochet right sides together and oversew them as shown above, using a tapestry or yarn needle.



2 To slip stitch a seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together. *Insert hook into both edge stitches, yrh and pull through to complete 1 slip stitch; rep from * working into the next edge stitches, keeping work fairly loose.



3 For a dc seam, place the crochet pieces right sides together, or wrong sides together for a visible seam. Work as for slip stitch seam, using double crochet instead of slip stitch.

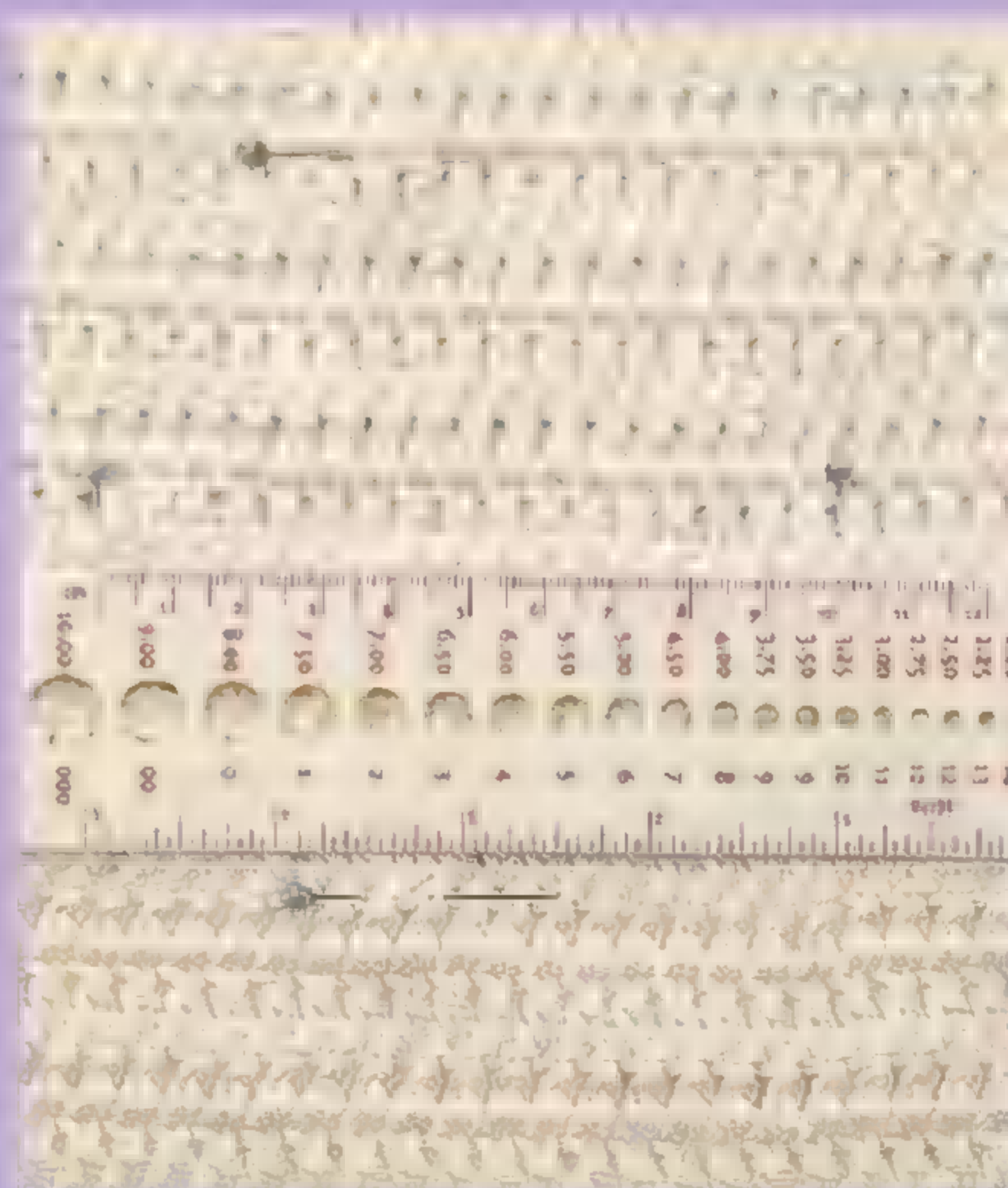
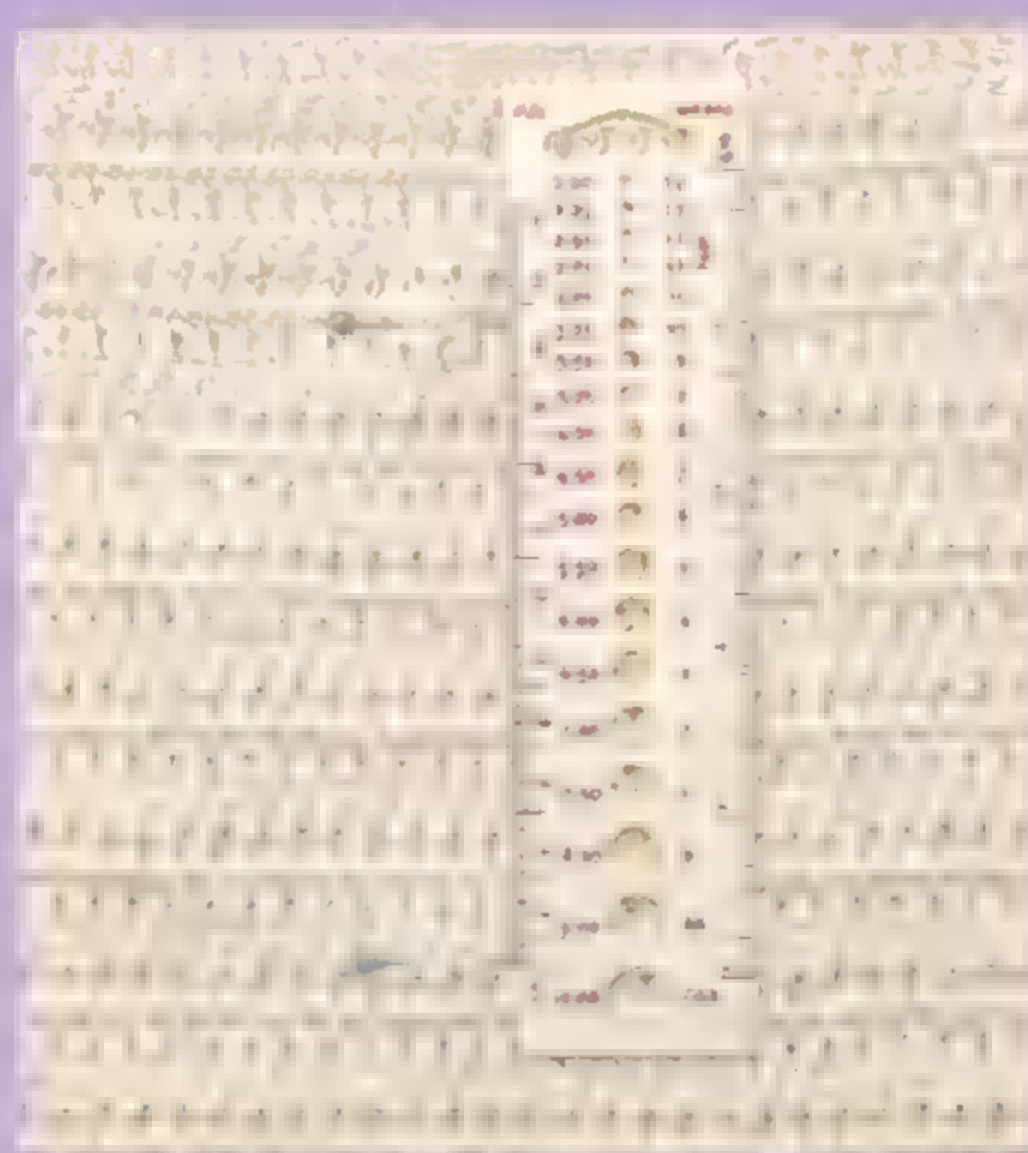


4 A useful variation on the dc seam, the dc and chain seam is used when less bulk and/or greater flexibility is needed. Work 1 double crochet and 1 chain alternately.

How to check your tension

Make and measure a swatch to check your tension

Most crochet patterns state the tension required, in rows and stitches of a specific type. Make a swatch at least 15cm square and check that your tension matches. Place a ruler across the swatch and insert two pins, 10cm apart. Then place the ruler along a column of stitches and insert two pins 10cm apart. Count the stitches and rows between the pins – if you have less than the pattern, your tension is too loose so you need to use a smaller hook, but if you have too many, use a larger hook. It's usually better to match the stitches than rows, because you can always work more or fewer rows.

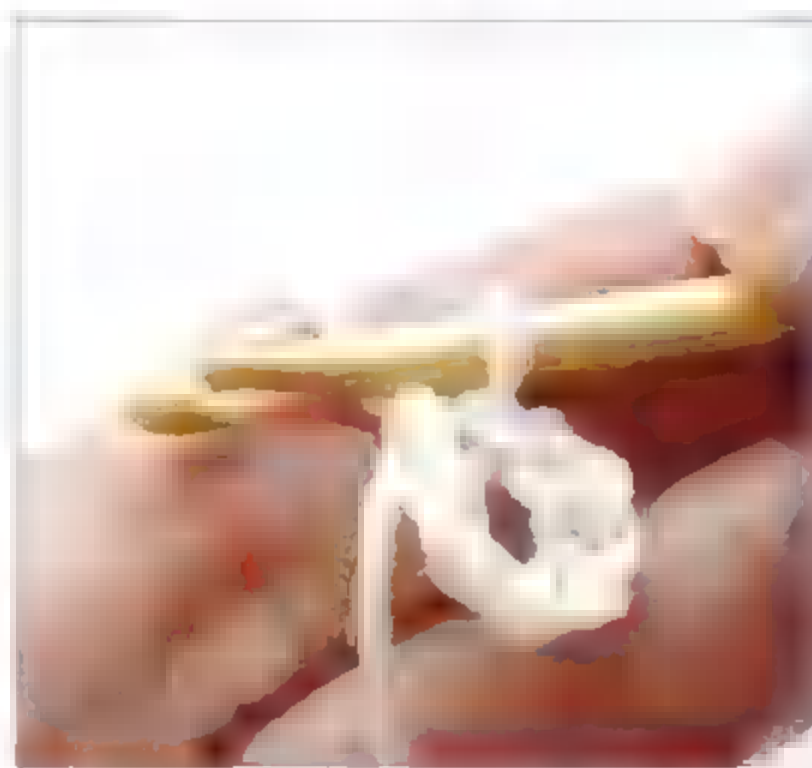


FOUNDATION RING

Create a foundation ring for working in the round



1 Make a chain the length stated in the pattern instructions. Next, insert the crochet hook into the first chain. Close the ring with a slip stitch, working yrh...



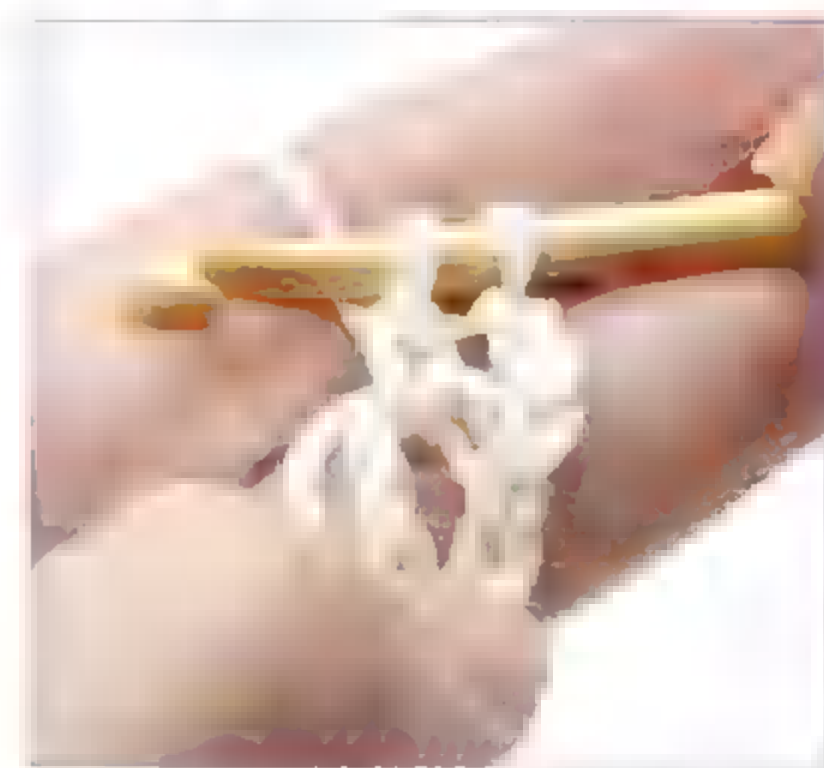
2 ...and pull yarn through 2 loops on hook. Now you're ready to start crocheting in the round, following the instructions given right.

WORKING STITCHES INTO A RING

To make circles, tubes and other shapes



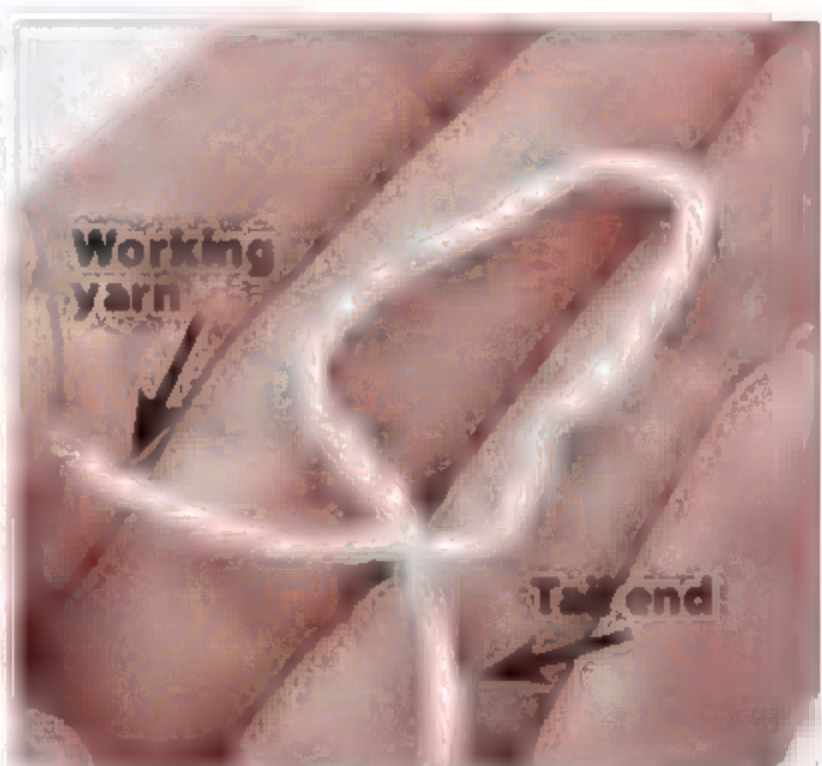
1 Make a foundation ring and work the t-ch (3ch for treble sts). Work a treble st as usual, but insert hook into centre of ring. For treble sts, yrh, insert hook into ring.



2 Finish the treble as usual (yrh, pull yarn through ring, yrh, pull yarn through first 2 loops, yrh, pull yarn through 2 loops). Work more sts into the ring as needed.

MAGIC LOOP

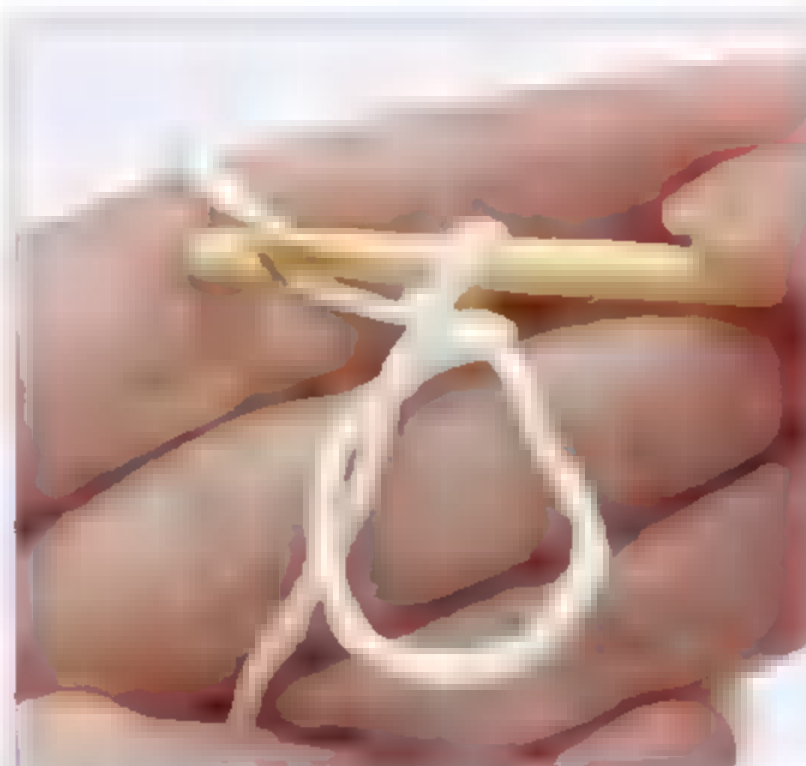
An alternative foundation ring for working in the round



1 To start a Magic Loop, don't make a slipknot. Instead, make a loop with the yarn, leaving a tail around 10cm long. Make sure the tail end is under the working yarn.



2 Now insert your hook into the loop, from front to back. Wrap the working yarn around the hook and pull the yarn through the loop.



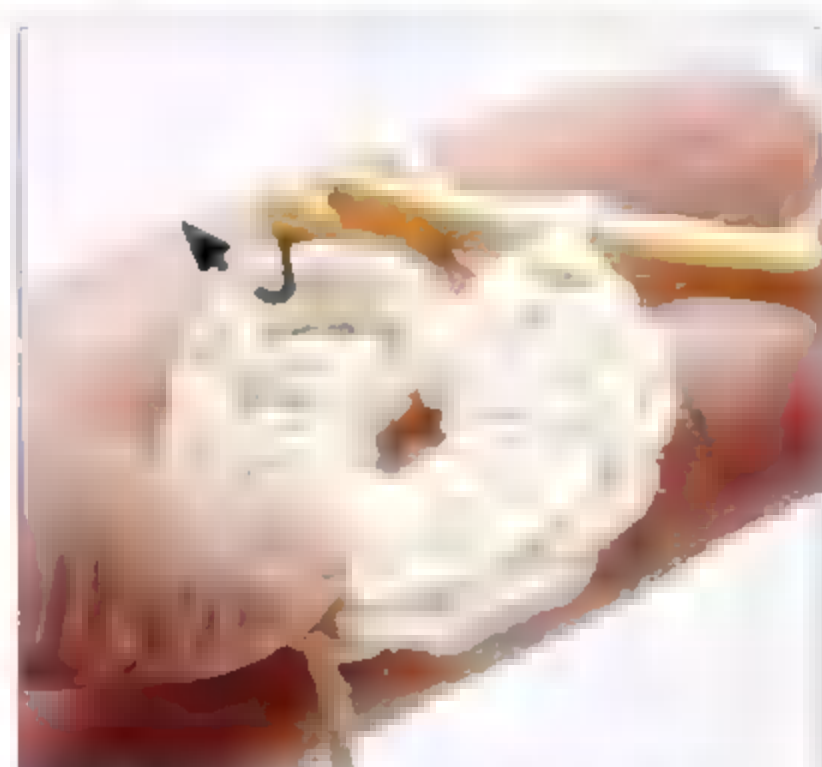
3 Make a t-ch for the sts you want to work (above, we made 1 t-ch for dc). Work your sts into the Magic Loop, over both the loop and the tail end (so two yarn strands).



4 Once you've worked the first round of stitches, simply pull the tail end of yarn to draw up the ring. Work a slip stitch to join the last and first sts to finish the first round (as instructed in the guide below).

JOINING ROUNDS

Finish off each round of crochet stitches nice and neatly by using a slip stitch



1 To close a round of stitches, work a slip stitch into the top of the turning chain. To do this, insert the hook into the top stitch of the turning chain.



2 Then place the yarn round the hook. Pull the yarn through the turning chain stitch and through the original stitch on your hook.



3 You've slip stitched the round together! Before working another round, be sure to make the required turning chain. Always work rounds on the right side, unless your pattern instructs you otherwise.

Rounds or spirals



Check which technique you need to use

Some patterns are worked in rounds that are joined together at the end of each round (see left). Other patterns are worked in a spiral so you don't need to join the rounds at the end, just keep going, working into the next stitch on the previous row. Amigurumi toys are often worked in a spiral like this.

Abbreviations

across	to end of the row	htr	half treble
approx	approximate(ly)	htr2tog	work 2htr together
beg	beginning	in next	sts to be worked into the same stitch
bl	insert hook under back loop only	inc	increase
BPtr	Back Post treble: yrh, starting from the back, insert hook from back to front to back around post of st in row below, complete as treble st	LH	left hand
ch(s)	chain/chain stitch(es)	lp(s)	loop(s)
ch-sp(s)	chain space(s)	meas	measures
ch-	refers to ch made previously, eg. ch-3	patt(s)	pattern(s)
d(s)	clusters	pm	place marker
2-tr cl	(yrh, insert hook in sp/st, yrh & pull up loop, yrh & draw through 2 loops) twice, inserting hook in same sp/st, yrh & draw through all loops on hook	prev	previous
cont	continue	qtr	quadruple treble
dc	double crochet	rem	remain(s)/remaining
dc2tog	(insert hook in next st, yrh and draw a loop through) twice, yrh and draw through all 3 loops on hook	rep	repeat
dec	decrease	RH	right hand
dtr	double treble crochet	rnd(s)	round(s)
dtr2tog	work 2dtr together	RS	right side
fdc	foundation dc	sk	skip
fttr	foundation tr	sp(s)	space(s)
fl	insert hook under front loop only	ss	slip stitch
foll/folls	following/follows	st(s)	stitch(es)
FPtr	Front Post treble: work in opposite way to BPtr	tbl	through back loop
		t-ch(s)	turning chain(s)
		tog	together
		tr	treble crochet
		tr2tog	(yrh, insert hook in next st, yrh and pull up loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) twice, yrh and draw through all loops on hook
		ttr	triple treble crochet
		WS	wrong side
		yrh	yarn round hook
		*	work instructions immediately foll *, then rep as many more times as directed
		()	work all instructions in the brackets as many times as directed

Crochet hook conversions

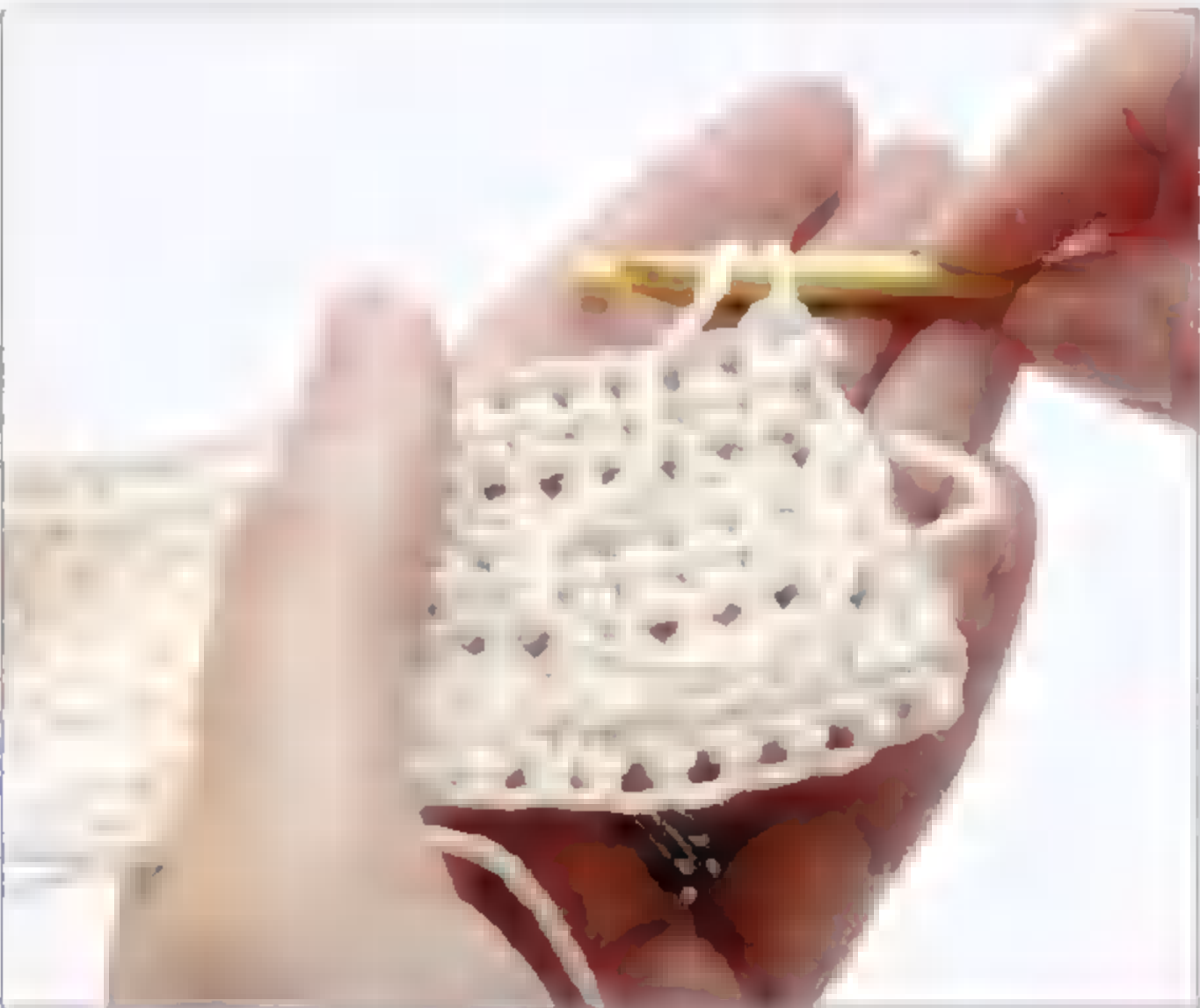
UK	METRIC	US
14	2mm	-
13	2.25mm	B/1
12	2.5mm	-
-	2.75mm	C/2
11	3mm	-
10	3.25mm	D/3
9	3.5mm	E/4
-	3.75mm	F/5
8	4mm	G/6
7	4.5mm	7
6	5mm	H/8
5	5.5mm	I/9
4	6mm	J/10
3	6.5mm	K/10½
2	7mm	-
0	8mm	L/11
00	9mm	M/13
000	10mm	N/15

Which hook do I use?

Hook size	UK yarn weight
2.5-3.5mm hook	4ply yarn
3.5-4.5mm hook	double knitting yarn
5-6mm hook	aran yarn
7mm and bigger	chunky yarn

HOW TO GET A PERFECT FINISH

To prevent your hard work unravelling once you've finished crocheting, fasten the end off carefully, following our instructions below



Complete the final stitch, then cut the yarn about 15cm from the work. Pull it through the last loop on the hook and pull to close the loop. Thread the yarn tail onto a tapestry needle and weave into the back of the work. Most crochet items don't need a lot of blocking, but cotton lace work usually does. To do this, carefully pin out the item with rust-proof pins, mist with a water spray and leave to dry naturally.

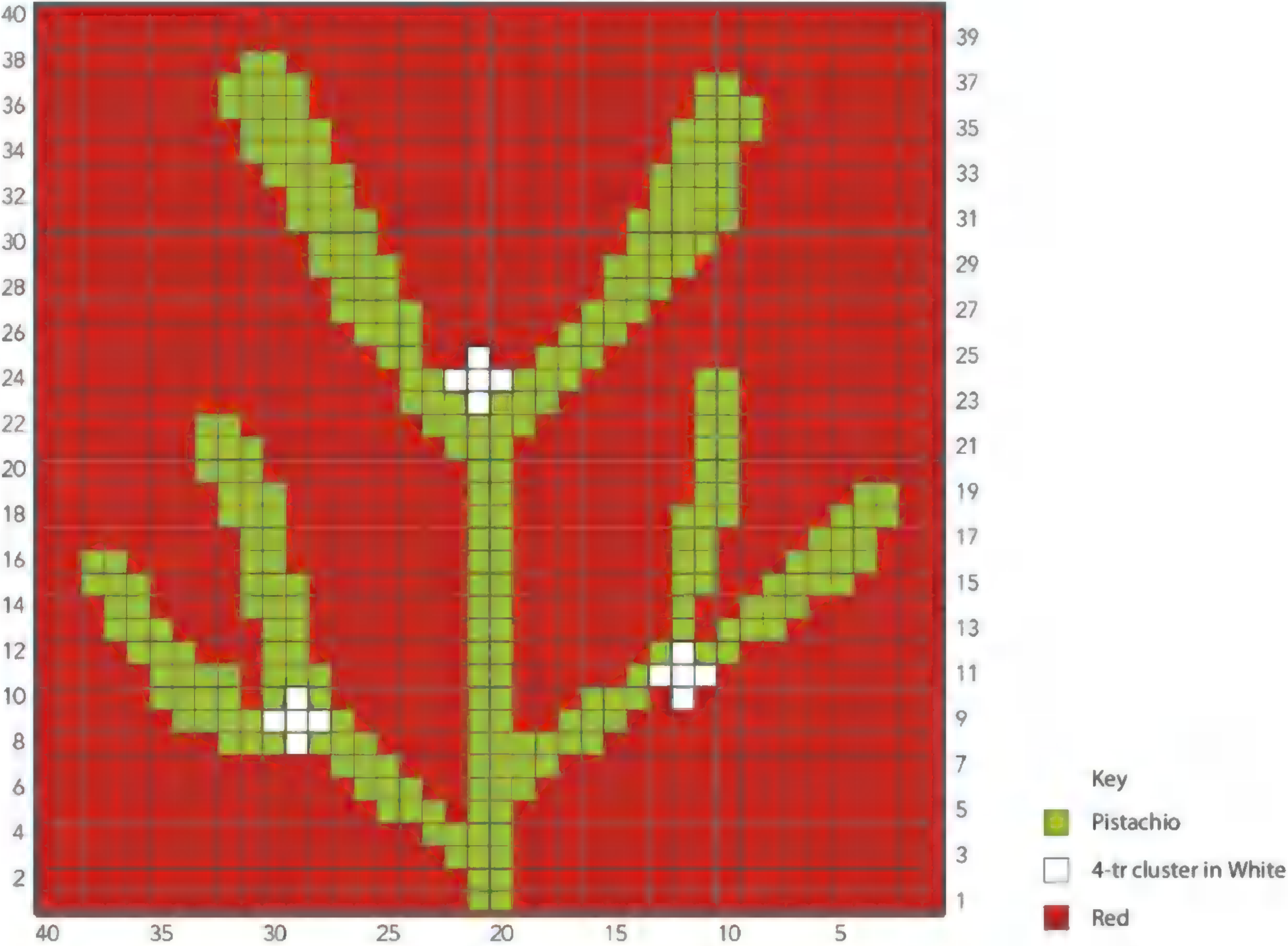
UK/US conversions

UK		US	
chain	ch	chain	ch
slip stitch	ss	slip stitch	ss
double crochet	dc	single crochet	sc
half treble	htr	half double	hdc
treble	tr	double	dc
double treble	dtr	treble	tr
triple treble	ttr	double treble	dtr

CHARTS & DIAGRAMS

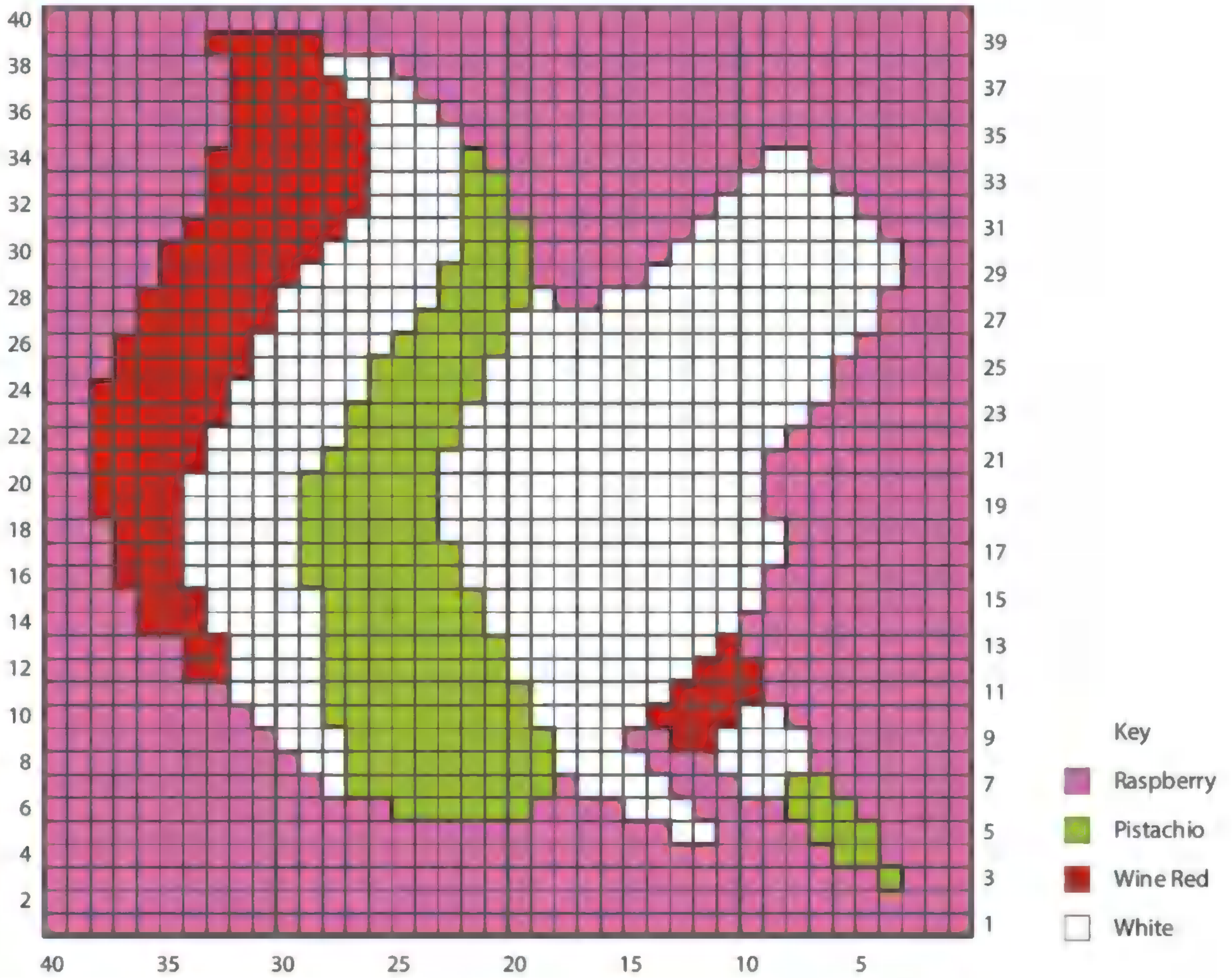
Follow these helpful charts when making the mint poncho, and the mistletoe and unicorn motifs for the Christmas mini-CAL

Mistletoe CAL, page 85



CHARTS

Unicorn CAL, page 95





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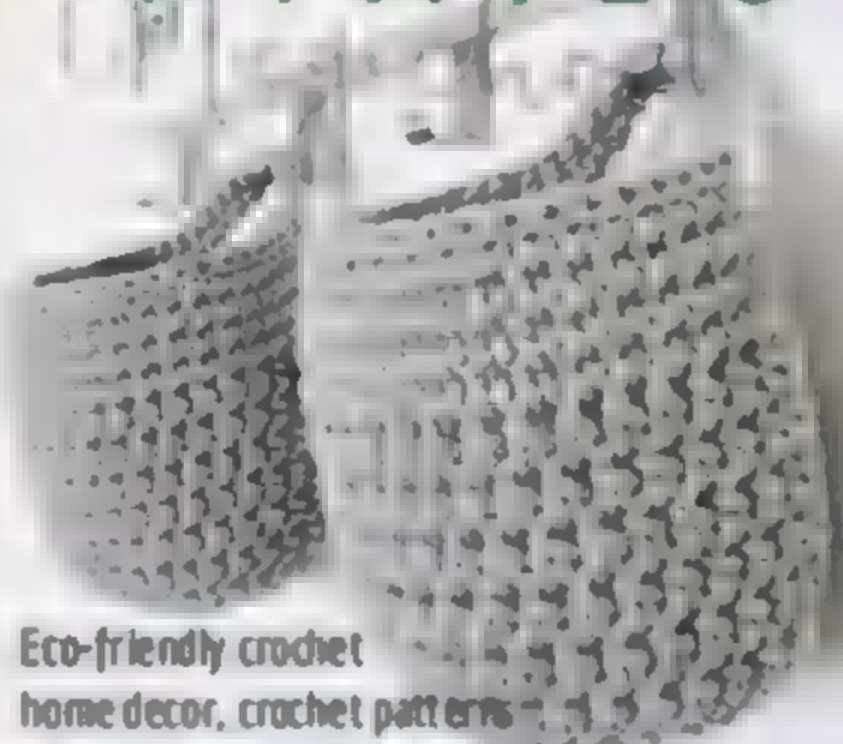


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NEXT ISSUE

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MINI CROCHET-ALONG

Merry Christmas!

Join our fun festive cushion CAL, designed by Marianne Rawlins

PART
TWO OF
FOUR



Six squares to
make in total!

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Above is the completed cushion: the patterns will be released in a series over four issues. This is part two of four. If you missed part one's snowflake and flamingo square patterns in issue 88, you can pick up a back issue (see page 84), or buy from the Simply Crochet Ravelry account



YOU WILL NEED

Mistletoe

- Ricorumi (100% cotton, 25g/58m), a small amount of each: White (001), Green (049)
- Rico Creative Cotton DK (100% cotton, 50g/115m), a small amount of Red (008)
- Rico Creative Lamé (62% polyester, 38% polyamide, 25g/135m), a small amount of Silver (001)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook

Unicorn

- Ricorumi (100% cotton, 25g/58m) a small amount of each: Pistachio (047), White (001), Wine Red (029), Black (060), Raspberry (013)
- Rico Creative Lamé (62% polyester, 38% polyamide, 25g/135m) a small amount of Gold (002)
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- A safety eye, 5mm

For yarn stockists contact Rico www.rico-design.co.uk

TENSION

17 sts and 17 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over pattern using a 4mm hook, or size needed to obtain correct tension

MEASUREMENTS

Each Square measures 23x23cm (13¼x13¼in)

ABBREVIATIONS

4-tr cluster (Yrh, inster hook into st specified, yrh and pull up a loop, yrh and draw through 2 loops) 4 times, yrh and pull through all loops on hook

For a full list see page 91

NOTES

Patterns are worked in rows, top down. Refer to the Charts on pages 91-92 for all colour changes. Read RS rows from right to left and WS rows from left to right. Each small square represents 1dc or 1 4-tr cluster (see abbreviations). Change colour on the last yrh of st before colour change is indicated. Carry unused yarn across WS of work. The first 2 colourwork rows have been written out to guide you.

Hook up a magical unicorn and a bough of mistletoe for the second part of our fun Christmas crochet-along cushion project. If you want to make the whole thing, use the list below right to buy all your supplies – the list on the left shows what you need for this month's two squares only.

SQUARES

MISTLETOE

Using Red, ch40.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1, dc in first 19 ch, change to Green, dc in next 2 ch, change to Red, dc in each ch across, turn. [40 sts]

Row 2 (WS) Ch1, dc in first 19 sts, change to Green, dc in next 2 sts, change to Red, dc in each st across, turn.

Rows 3-7 As Row 2, following the Chart on page 91.

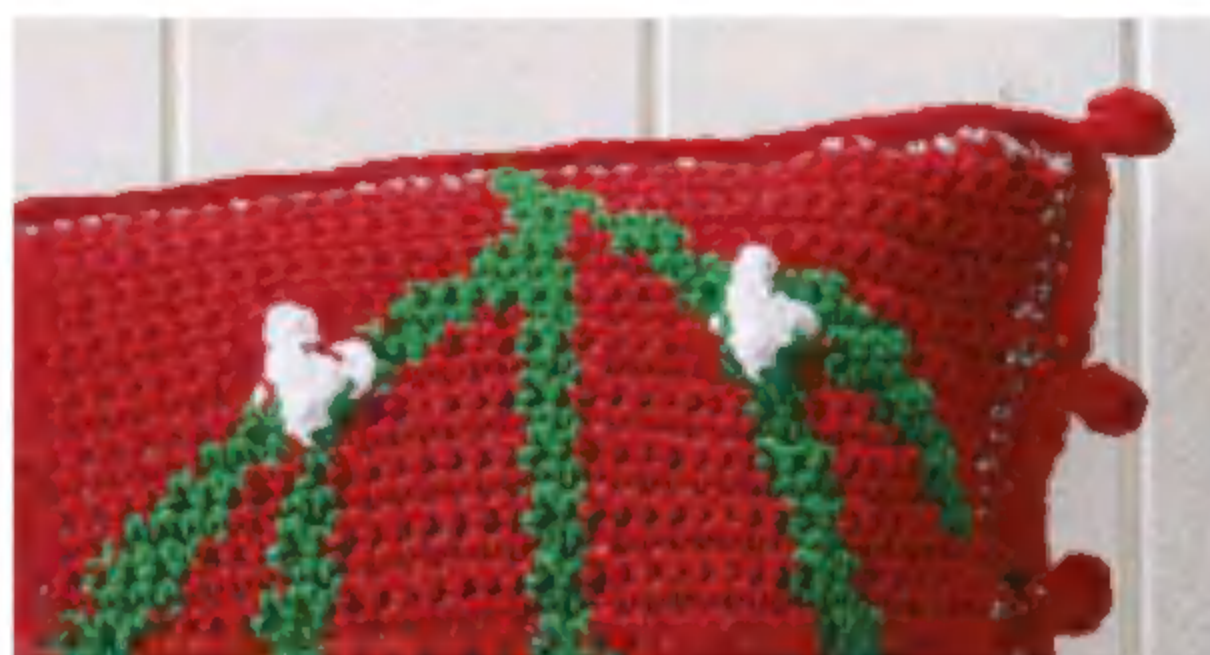
Row 8 Ch1, dc in next 8 sts, change to Green, dc in next 3 sts, change to White, 4-tr cluster in next st, change to Green, dc in next 3 sts, change to Red, dc in next 4 sts, change to Green, dc in next 6 sts, change to Red, dc in each st across, turn.

Rows 9-40 Continue in pattern set.

Fasten off.

BORDER

With RS facing, join Silver into any corner.



From left to right: the white mistletoe berries are made with sets of treble 4 clusters, set on a red background in a classical Christmas colourway. The unicorn is ripe for embellishment – try accessorising its mane with the silver and gold Creative Lamé for an extra-magical flourish

Round 1 (RS) Ch1, (3dc in corner, dc in each st and row end to next corner) 4 times, ss to top of beg dc. [168 sts]

Fasten off and weave in ends.

UNICORN

Using Raspberry, ch40.

Row 1 (RS) Ch1 (does not count as a st throughout), dc in each ch across, turn. [40 sts]

Row 2 (WS) As Row 1.

Row 3 Ch1, dc in first 3 sts, change to Pistachio, dc in next st, change to Raspberry, dc in each st to end, turn.

Row 4 Ch1, dc in first 34 sts, change to Pistachio, dc in next 2 sts, change to Raspberry, dc in final 4 sts, turn.

Rows 5-40 Continue in pattern following the Chart on page 92.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

Use the image to place the safety eye.

Using Black, sew a small straight st for the nostril.

BORDER

With RS facing, join Gold into any corner and work Border as for Mistletoe.

Fasten off and weave in ends.

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO COMPLETE THE CUSHION

Materials list for entire CAL project

- Ricorumi (100% cotton, 25g/58m)
 - 2 balls of White (001)
 - 1 ball of each:
 - Pink (011)
 - Candy Pink (012)
 - Raspberry (013)
 - Midnight Blue (035)
 - Pistachio (047)
 - Wine Red (029)
 - Orange (027)
 - Green (049)
 - Fuchsia (014)
 - Sky Blue (031)
 - Purple (020)
 - Yellow (006)
 - Black (060)

- Rico Creative Lamé (62% polyester, 38% polyamide, 25g/135m)
 - 1 ball of each:
 - Gold (002)
 - Silver (001)
- Rico Creative Cotton (100% cotton, DK, 50g/115m)
 - 1 ball each of:
 - Red
 - Fir Green
- A 4mm (US G/6) hook
- 60x35cm cushion pad
- 3 safety eyes, 5mm size
- 1 safety eye, 3mm size



Pride and joy

My Kinda Thing owner Aniqua Wilkerson creates beautiful dolls as part of her mission to promote pride in children of colour

My favourite crochet make is my doll named Jamila, which means beautiful. I had her in mind because I wanted her to be a beautiful representation of my mission. This important mission is to promote pride and confidence in children of colour (particularly girls, and even more specifically black girls) in efforts to combat self-hate. Every detail about her was very important and purposefully chosen. She is currently my favourite because of those meaningful details.

Jamila is a reminder to the world that black is beautiful too! Far too often we correlate bad things with 'black'. As a crochet doll maker I want to share my perspective through creating designs that reflect the beauty of our black girls. I chose Jamila's skin tone in the darkest shade of brown I had within my stash, and I crocheted her hair to mimic the thick, kinky texture often associated with African/black hair.

I chose a fuchsia and sparkly gold yarn combo for Jamila's clothing because I had found a beautiful African print fabric that I knew I wanted to use to make her a head wrap! I wanted her to be

Afrocentric, to highlight and celebrate my own African heritage. As an African American, it is important that I design dolls that reconnect me with my African roots.

Jamila was created with love and purpose, like every crochet doll I make. She is a teaching tool, used to show, not just the crochet world, but the wider world that beauty comes in every shade, even the darkest shade of brown. She is created with a combination of simple crochet techniques used to convey a simple understanding. Beauty is diverse and it doesn't conform to select standards. There are immeasurable ways to be beautiful and Jamila is a reminder of just one of them.

While there is no pattern for this design, I do teach an online course showing how to create her from start to finish. I am also working on creating a pattern for my Jamila doll because she was designed with so much significance to me.

Turn to page 28 to find another wonderful design by Aniqua. There are more of Aniqua's doll designs online at [MyKindaThing on etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com/shop/MyKindaThing), and you can follow her on Instagram @my_kinda_thing and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mykindathing



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